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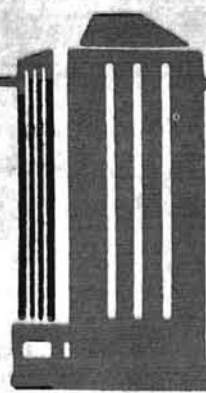
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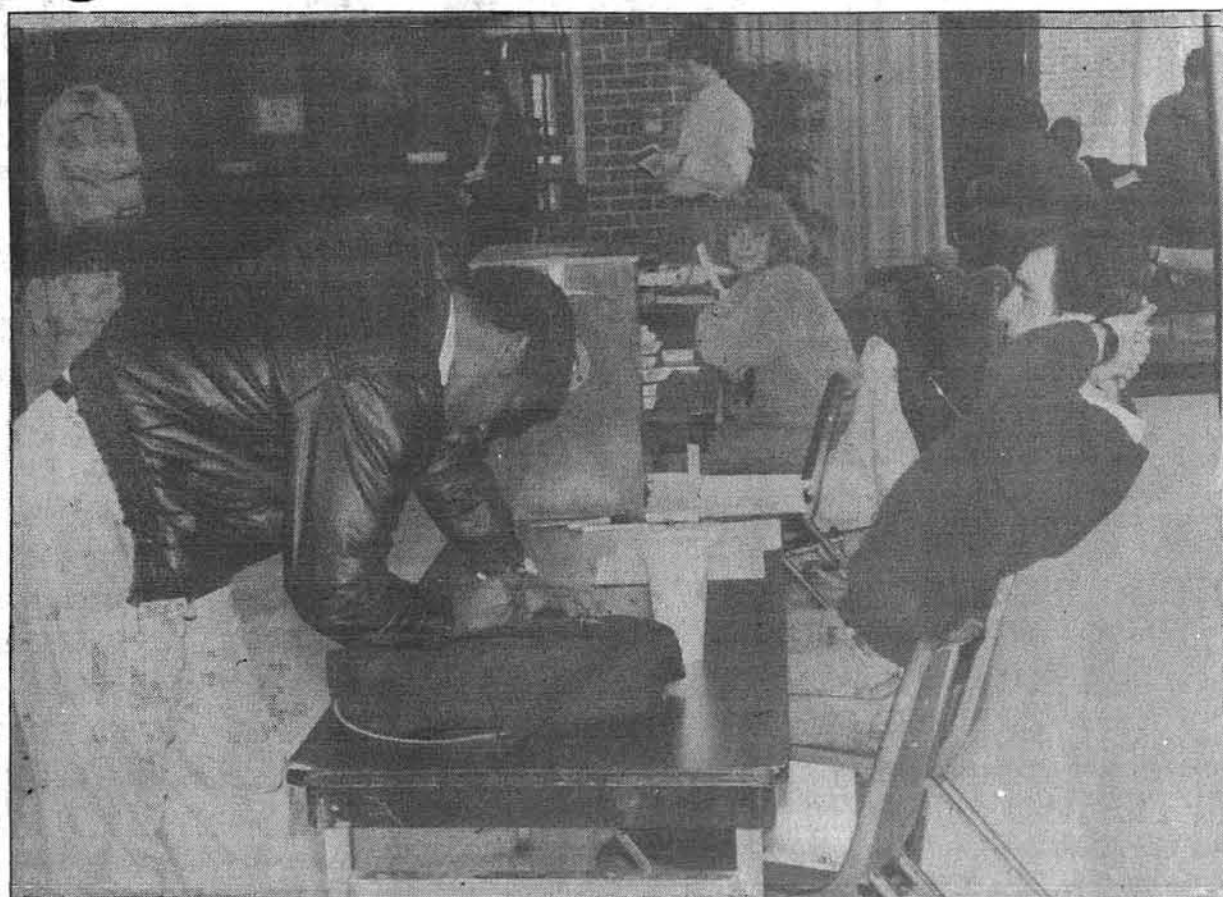
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Small, Paige Win SGA Seats In Close Election Race



EXERCISING HIS RIGHT: A voter casts his ballot in University Center while election commissioner Steve Bratcher oversees the procedure. This year's presidential race was marred by allegations of campaign violations and unethical tactics by several candidates.

LEFT: Newly elected Student Government Association President Terence Small and Vice President Laura Paige.

See related stories, editorial page 8.

Ballots To Be Recounted; Winner Calls For Reform

by Paul Thompson
editor

Terence Small was elected as the new Student Government Association president, along with his running mate Laura Paige, in a close election that was marred by controversy.

Small and Paige won the April 10 and 11 election by a plurality in the four-way race for the two top student government slots.

"It hasn't hit me yet," said an excited Small, shortly after ballot-counting was completed late Tuesday night. "But we've worked hard for this."

"We've stayed within the rules," he said, referring to alleged and actual misconduct of several of his opponents. (See related stories)

"I'm proud of the fact that we went out to the people. This win is the benefit of doing it the right way."

According to unofficial election returns, Small received 283 votes and Paige received 285.

Coming in second were David Rothman with 266 votes and his running mate Karen Aldridge with 275

votes.

Steve Meinhold, considered the favored candidate by many, drew only 169 votes, while his running mate Shaun McDonald received 155.

Jeffrey Scott, a late entrant into the race, took 41 votes and his running mate Carol Oberaitis took 42.

The Student Court will conduct a recount of the ballots because of the close margin of victory between the Small/Paige ticket and the Rothman/Aldridge ticket. Incumbent SGA President Jerry Berhorst said the court will meet Friday to conduct the recount.

"I don't blame them for having a recount for something that close," Small said.

Berhorst, who had supported the Meinhold/McDonald ticket, said he believes Small will do a good job as SGA president.

"I wish him the best of luck," Berhorst said. "I think he ran a hell of a campaign, especially in the last two days. And although he doesn't have a mandate, he's got a strong backing."

see VICTORY, page 2

Election Marred By Charges Against Three Candidates Publicity Stunt Flops

by Kevin Kleine
managing editor

A failed publicity stunt by Student Government Association vice presidential candidate Shaun McDonald, prompted his running mate, Steve Meinhold to disassociate himself with McDonald Monday.

The Meinhold/McDonald ticket lost in the SGA election on Tuesday night by a wide margin.

The publicity stunt, as McDonald described it, involved apparently stealing several bundles of last week's issue of the Current in an attempt to spread a rumor.

McDonald hoped the rumor would gain him name recognition and thus more votes in the election.

Several sources including Meinhold and John Gorges, one of their campaign workers, told the Current about what they saw as a blatant disregard for ethics on

McDonald's part.

"I see it as a form of censorship," Gorges said. "Anytime someone denies the campus the right to make an objective decision about the elections [by removing newspapers from the racks], I have a problem with that."

McDonald explained he started a rumor in hopes of gaining a rebellious image in addition to notoriety.

"It's a very unorthodox way of campaigning, but it has worked for me in the past," McDonald said.

A similar tactic was used by McDonald in high school to win an election, he said.

"It was a little publicity thing that went awry," McDonald said.

McDonald says that he pretended to be upset with the stories that ran in the Current last week and told

see STUNT, page 7

Rules Violations Alleged

by Paul Thompson
editor

SGA vice presidential candidate Karen Aldridge has been accused of violating student election procedures by campaigning next to a balloting spot on South Campus.

Aldridge, who placed second in the vice presidential race, emphatically denied any charges of improperly leveled against her.

Victorious presidential candidate Terence Small alleged, along with at least three other witnesses, that Aldridge was campaigning at the South Campus balloting spot on Monday morning.

Student election guidelines prohibit any campaigning or distribution of election literature within 25 feet of a ballot box.

Small and others charged that Aldridge, who is presidential candidate David Rothman's running

mate, was campaigning at the balloting table.

Small said he saw Aldridge at the polling place, with Rothman/Aldridge literature lying on the table. He said Aldridge had her knee on the table.

Aldridge, a doctoral candidate in optometry, said she had only gone to the polling place to cast her ballot. "There was no campaigning on the South Campus at those polling places," Aldridge said. "I went to the South Campus to vote; I voted. I had classes all day and I did not miss any of my classes."

She said the charge against her was totally false. "That is an outright lie," Aldridge said.

Small, who won the election, has filed a complaint against the Aldridge/Rothman ticket with the Student Court.

see ALDRIDGE, page 7

Vote Seekers Sort Ballots

by Paul Thompson
editor
and
Kevin Kleine
managing editor

Two Student Government Association candidates have been accused of unethical conduct during this week's election because they helped sort ballots on which their names appeared.

Presidential candidate David Rothman and vice presidential candidate Shaun McDonald assisted an election official in separating Senate ballots from presidential/vice presidential ballots, during preliminary election tallying on Monday.

Rothman and McDonald were running on separate tickets and acted at the request of Election Commissioner Steve Bratcher, who said he needed their help because he

was short-staffed in the election.

Rothman, McDonald and Bratcher said they realized that they had erred in the incident and realized that it created an appearance of impropriety.

Even critics of their action said they do not believe any actual tampering with the ballots occurred, but said that even such an appearance is reprehensible.

"Yeah, it was wrong," Rothman said. "But one of the problems with student involvement here is that you can't get volunteers to help with the ballots."

"Right away, I thought, 'This isn't right,'" McDonald said. "But Bratcher was in a pinch. He authorized us."

Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Sandy MacLean was also present during the ballot separation.

see BALLOTS, page 7

Fabulous Thunderbirds Coming Soon

by Greg Albers
reporter

Quick! Grab a pen and rush to your calendar. You don't want to miss this. Wednesday April 19 is Mirthday at UM-St. Louis.

What is Mirthday, you ask? It's a university-sponsored event to give students a chance to put their books down, kick up their heels, relax and get to know each other.

This is the fourth annual Mirthday, and promises to be the biggest yet. Appearing live in concert will be the Fabulous Thunderbirds. And you thought this school was small time.

In addition to the concert, there will be a ferris wheel, a miniature golf course, clowns, games and plenty of food and drinks. There will also be a sand volleyball tournament. Tons of sand will be brought in to form two volleyball courts, where students and faculty can participate

see MIRTH, page 2

Abortion Rights Rally Held To Kick Off Protest

by Cathy Dey
news editor

Hundreds of people filled the lower level of Garage H and spilled out onto the surrounding area on the UM-St. Louis campus in an emotionally charged rally for "Women's Equality and Women's Lives" held last Saturday.

Supporters for women's rights to have "safe and legal abortions" braved the bitter cold and threat of rain in order to hold the rally before boarding buses that would take them to a nationwide march on the Capitol.

"I feel empowered by the cause and the crowds," said a woman named Robin who was preparing to join the march in Washington, D.C. "This is probably the most important cause we could be involved in in this decade."

Robin's friend Susan added, "We're from the Show-Me State and we want to 'show' that we're not stupid and backwards like our state senators and our attorney general."

Robin and Susan declined to give their last names.

The participants' placards and homemade signs characterized the

feeling that morning: "If men could have babies abortion would be a sacrament," "Keep abortion legal," and "Abortion is a woman's right" were only a few.

But these sentiments were tempered slightly by a small group of anti-abortionists who staged a counter-demonstration across the street from Garage H. Their numbers included a person on stilts who dressed as the Grim Reaper, who wore the label "Abortion," and right to life activists carrying signs showing pictures of bloody, dismembered fetuses.

No violence occurred between the two groups. "The counter rally was really peaceful," noted Chief Pic-kens of the UM-St. Louis Campus Police. "They didn't get involved except for displaying their banners."

The rally held on campus and the following march on the Capitol were prompted by the U.S. Supreme Court's decision to rule on April 26 in a Missouri case that could make many abortions illegal.

In the case, "Webster v. Reproductive Health Services," Missouri Attorney General William Webster defends a state law that

see RALLY, page 3



KICK OFF: Harriet Woods gives an inspirational speech to pro-choice activists preparing to march on the Capitol.

Scott Brandt

INSIDE

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GREEK WEEK

UM-St. Louis fraternities and sororities get set for a little friendly competition.

see page 4



PAPA WILL

A new short story by lecturer Charles Warts.

see page 9



Campus Reminder

Be sure to attend Mirthday on April 19!

Campus Events

THURSDAY, APRIL 13

- The Newman House is offering Catholic mass today at 12:30 p.m. in 266 University Center. All students, faculty and staff are welcome.
- "To Be a Parent": Loretta Walters from the St. Louis Public Schools Parent/Infant Interaction Program (PIIP), will discuss key ingredients needed for successful parenting both from a personal and programatic point of view from noon to 1 p.m. in 211 Clark Hall.

FRIDAY, APRIL 14

- The Accounting Club will meet at 1:30 p.m. in 222 J.C. Penney. Marvin Smiley and Mark Wheatley of Source Finance will give a presentation on "Opportunities After Public Accounting".
- The Newman House Catholic Student Center presents communion service and scriptural prayer at noon in 266 University Center.
- Donald Kummer and Thomas Eysell, of the UM-St. Louis Finance Department, will speak on "Insider Trading, Signaling, and

Valuation: The Case of Initial Public Offerings" at 2 p.m. in 469 SSB.

●Pat Minx will speak on "Research in Western Mexico" at the UM-St. Louis Biology Club meeting in the Biology Department Conference Room (223E) from 1 to 2 p.m. Refreshments should be provided.

MONDAY, APRIL 17

- UM-St. Louis and Beta Alpha Psi Blood Drive will be from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in 126 J.C. Penney. Attendance prizes, free passes to the Funny Bone, McDonald's coupons and helium balloons will be given away. Come join the fun! Please donate; blood is needed.

TUESDAY, APRIL 18

- Larry Schlereth, vice-chancellor for administrative services, will hold open office hours today and every Tuesday from 1 to 3 p.m. Everyone is free to drop by without an appointment.
- UM-St. Louis and Beta Alpha Psi Blood Drive will be from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in 126 J.C. Penney. Attendance prizes, free passes

to the Funny Bone, McDonald's coupons and helium balloons will be given away. Come join the fun! Please donate; blood is needed.

- Individuals who are looking for help in publishing their short stories and articles are invited to attend a course offered by the UM-St. Louis Continuing Education-Extension from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. today and Thursday, April 18 and 20. Fee is \$65. Call 553-5961 for information.

●Lecture: "Women in Management: Being the 'Odd Man' Out." Cathy Burack, coordinator of the Women's Center at UM-St. Louis, will talk about the effects of tokenism and strategies to deal with it effectively. The discussion will be from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19

- The Newman House presents Catholic mass at noon in 266 University Center. A complimentary lunch follows.
- Lecture: Alison Anschutz of St. Louis University will speak on "Novel Mechanism for Phosphorylation of a Plasma Membrane Protein" at 4 p.m. in 121 Research.

Library Addition Nears Completion, But Work To Continue

by John Kilgore
reporter

The new wing of the Thomas Jefferson Library is scheduled to be open to students by early June, but University officials expect construction and renovation on the library to continue through September.

According to Mushira Haddad, coordinator for the library construction, the current periodical and microtext department, along with the cataloging department, will be moved into the new building within six or seven weeks.

"We're still ahead of schedule," Haddad said. "We've made the decision to move the bound periodicals to the new addition by late May or early June."

The periodical section, now located on the north end of the ground floor, includes over 85,000 volumes. The cataloging department, also located on the third floor, is part of the technical services department and does the ordering of books and catalogs.

The \$6 million, two-story addition should be completely finished by early June, except for the mezzanine section on level two. The mezzanine, a student study area, will be situated beneath a pyramid-shaped skylight. The glass pyramid will be the last project on the new addition to be completed.

The addition of 46,000 square feet

from the new addition and the transfer of the two departments from the main library to the new wing will begin a shifting of departments on the ground floor that will last through the summer. Library officials say the main floor of the library will have a "new look" by late September.

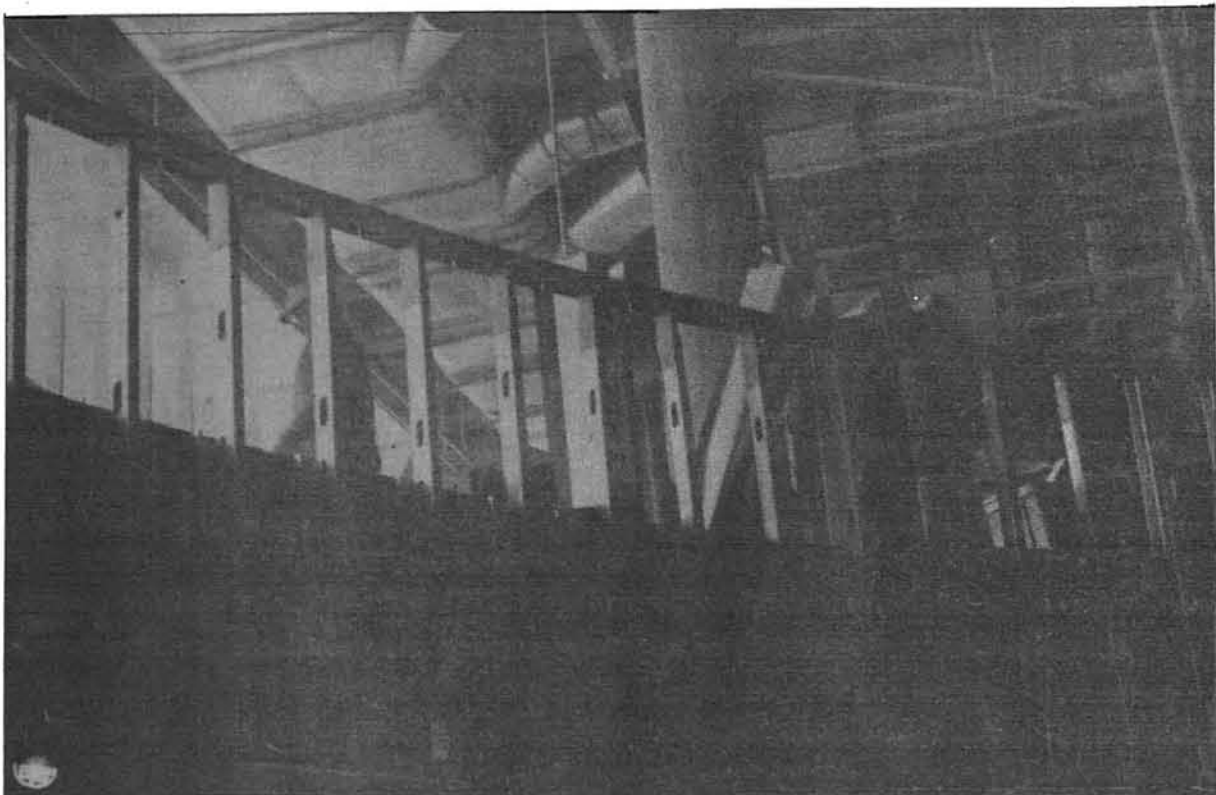
"It's a long process," Haddad said. "Our goal is to not affect the service and to continue to provide the best service we can give."

In May, the new spiral staircase, on the main floor, is scheduled to be open for traffic. According to Haddad, the decision was made to delay the opening of the new staircase until after finals to minimize disruption.

The new-look ground floor will include a shifting of the circulation desk closer to the front doors. The handicapped room will be moved from the fifth floor to the more convenient ground floor location.

According to Haddad, the University has requested that architects include electric doors, similar to the ones on the new science building, be included at the entrance of the library to accommodate handicapped students.

The shifting of departments on the ground floor will open up space for a new library conference room. Haddad also said that library officials have requested that four new copy machines be purchased for the new wing.



John Kilgore

MIRTH

from page one

in a non-competitive tournament. All participants will receive a free T-shirt.

Contact the Intramural office for details on signing up a team.

There will be roller blade skating exhibitions at 11:15 and 1:15. After-

wards, students will be given a chance to try them out for themselves.

The Underground will be closed from 9-2, but discounts will be given on the food at the festival, which will be hot dogs, popcorn, bratwurst.

Your typical picnic foods.

The festival will take place from 10-2, with the concert at noon. And in case you were wondering, all activities will be free, so now you don't have any excuse for not going.

VICTORY

from page one

Berhorst said Small's greatest task will be building effective coalitions. He added that the Mark Twain renovation project, the new membership in the Associated Students of University of Missouri, a new computer center, and the search for a new student curator will have to be priorities for the new administration.

"He's a good guy," Berhorst said, "but he's going to have to learn a lot of things real fast."

Small will officially assume his position after the May commencement.

Small and Paige campaigned on themes that directly affect students on the UM-St. Louis campus. They said that their opponents focused too much on legislative issues in Jefferson City, slighting the daily concerns of students on campus.

Small and Paige cited parking, financial aid, food services and academic advising as areas that need to be focused on and improved.

But after the disarray and controversy surrounding the election's organization and alleged improprieties during the election, Small said that his first priority would be to restructure the election process.

Small and Paige also said that high on their list of priorities would be changing the way in which student activities fees are allocated to ensure that funds are equitably distributed among the various student groups.

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Scenes From Rally

RALLY from page one

proclaims that the life of each human being begins at conception and that an unborn child at any stage of development shall have all the rights and immunities available to other citizens of Missouri.

The law has been declared unconstitutional by both a federal district court and a federal circuit court of appeals.

Spurred by this serious threat to what they deem as a woman's right to have safe and legal abortions, pro-choice activists at the rally cheered and clapped for the various inspirational messages given by invited speakers.

Former Lieutenant Governor Harriet Woods reminded participants that this "March for Women's Equality/Women's Lives" was "not only important for reproductive rights, but also for rights for everyone in this country."

Ralliers were even treated to a rap song about the march and women's rights, and danced and sang "We've talked the Talk/ We'll walk the Walk/ We'll fight another fight for our equal rights."

Men and women of all ages showed up to support the marchers, who raised \$15,000 and took 17 buses to Washington, D.C.

"The greatest thing is the diversity of the people here," said Janice Barnes, a volunteer escort who helps women get passed abortion protestors at clinics. "[The rallyers] are gay and straight, old and young, black and white."

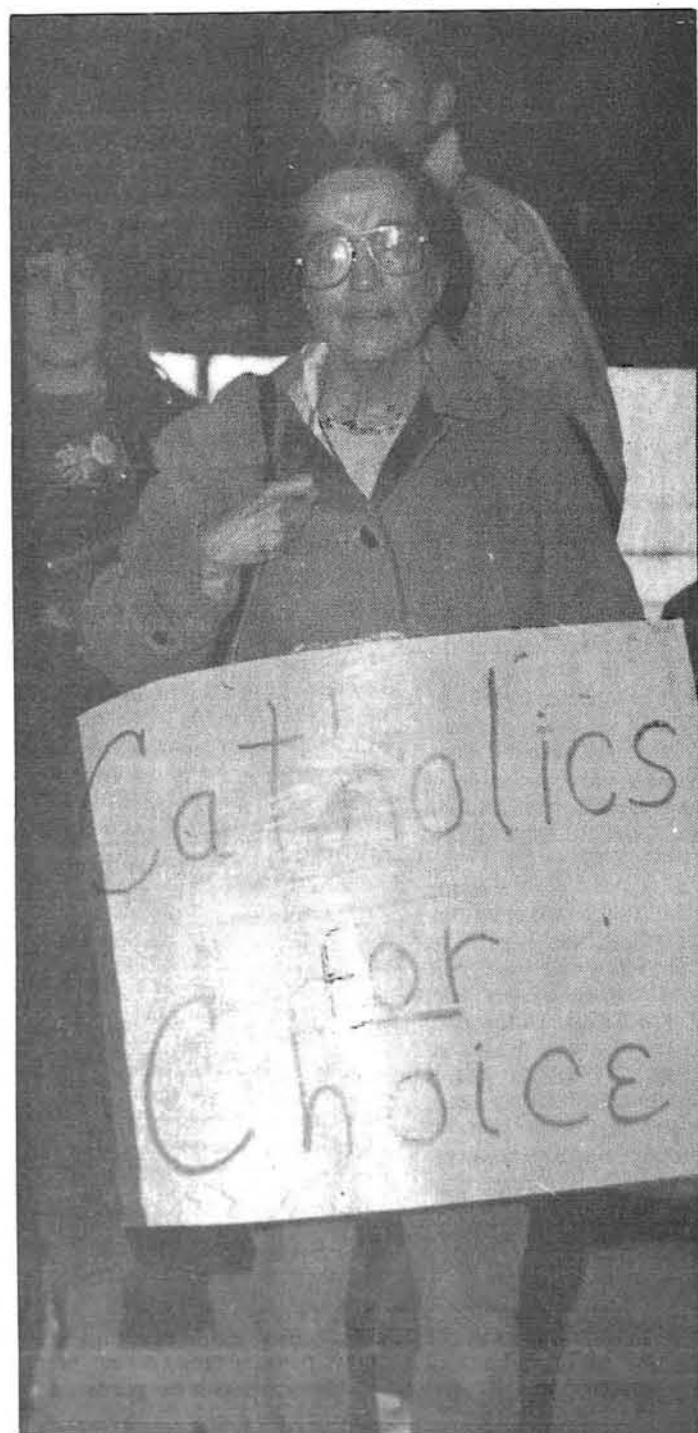
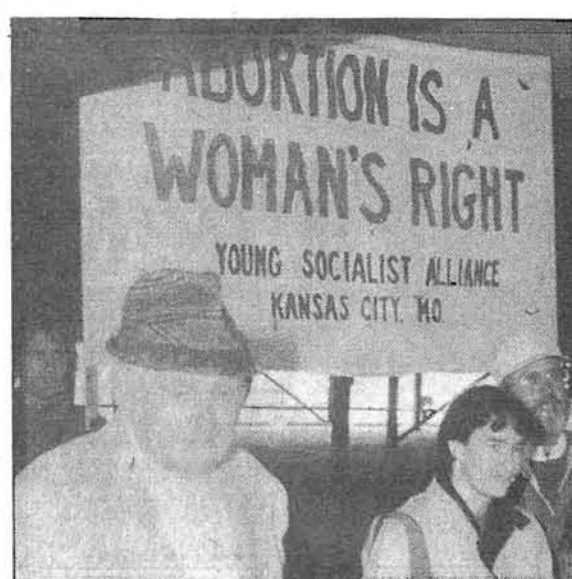
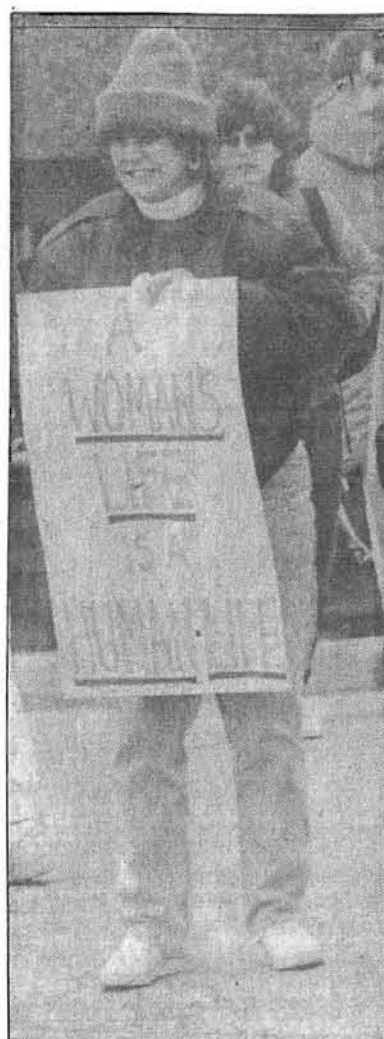
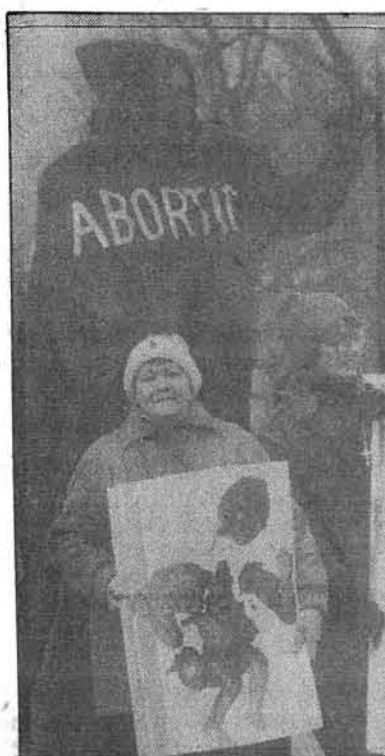
The men planning to march "for women's equality" had strong feelings also about the possibility of abortions being outlawed.

"I'd like the government to know that it's a woman's body and it should be her decision," Scott Nabe said. Nabe added that he is not necessarily in favor of abortion, but that he hopes to let the government know that it cannot take away individuals' rights.

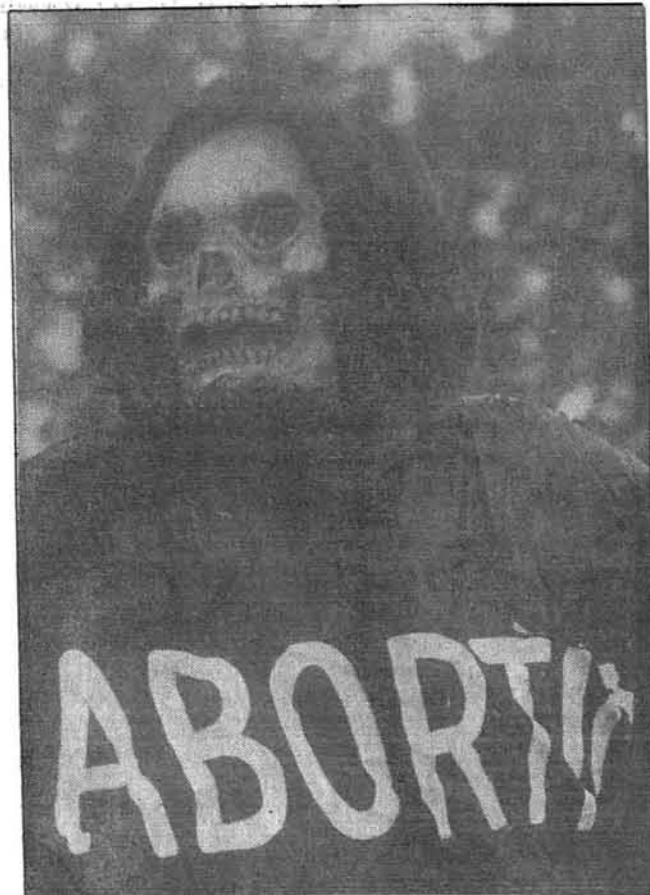
Those going to the Capitol boarded the buses at noon to the cheers of their supporters who stayed behind in St. Louis and to the dismay of the anti-abortion demonstrators who held signs in their paths. The "March for Women's Equality/Women's Lives" was held on April 9 and drew approximately 300,000 pro-choice advocates.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP:

Counter demonstrators display facsimiles of bloody, aborted fetuses; recent UM-St. Louis graduate Cathy Grossheim gives her feelings on human life; the Young Socialist Alliance from Kansas City and St. Louis area Catholics for Choice both turned out to show their support; St. Louis lesbians hold their banner proclaiming pro-choice views.



Photos By Scott Brandt



LEFT: The Grim Reaper was an imposing figure on stilts.

ABOVE: Anti-abortion demonstrators dubbed the march for equality a "death march."

RIGHT: City of St. Louis 22nd Ward Alderman Kenneth Jones gives his support to the pro-choice rallyers.

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Art Exhibit

Hannah Wilke Opens In Gallery 210

by Stephen M. Schorie
contributor

Artist Hannah Wilke visited UM-St. Louis to give a lecture about her art exhibit, currently on display in Gallery 210, in Lucas Hall, on April 6.

This exhibit "Hannah Wilke: a Retrospective," is also the title of her soon-to-be published book, which is edited by Thomas H. Kochheiser (director of Gallery 210), with an essay by Joanna Frueh. The book will be available for purchase through the University of Missouri Press.

This exhibit shows Wilke's versatility in celebrating the female form in many mediums of vaginal

images. Her choice of chewing gum and eraser ("erase-her") as a medium, represents the way American society uses up people.

Women and gum are to be used up and disposed of, before popping in another piece. Wilke considers herself to be a naturalist and thinks that any form of censorship is a form of vandalism.

"Champagne" is a work made of latex rubber and metal snaps. Wilke loves the feeling that working with latex provides, and has several works in this medium, although "Champagne" is the only latex work in this exhibit.

The "Handle with Care" series has photos of Wilke with chewing gum forms on her body ("Blackjack"

brand is her favorite). These represent mental scars and feelings that we all possess. It is her intention, with these photos, that we treat each other with more respect.

Selma Butter (Hannah's mother) is kindly remembered in photograph and in a poem that the artist wrote: "My mother, such a smart woman/Too good lookin' to be smart./ At home she stayed./ At home she played, whatever was needed from her./ The New York Times was finished by five./ Served dinner by seven./ I played and stayed till heaven."

UM-St. Louis will display this exhibit of Wilke's work in Gallery 210, until April 26. Gallery 210 is located in 218 Lucas Hall.

Two Philosophy Profs Win Slots In Seminar

Two philosophers from UM-St. Louis have been chosen in a national competition as participants in a seminar on the nature of scientific knowledge sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Paul Roth and Ronald Munson were the two selected. "We're delighted," Munson

said. "Apart from personal satisfaction, the choice demonstrates the strength of UM-St. Louis' academic programs and its growing reputation."

The seminar, to be held at the University of Hawaii in Honolulu, will bring together philosophers from colleges and universities throughout the

United States. The topic of discussion will be whether science can be taken as the best example of knowledge or whether other ways of viewing the world are equally valid.

Roth is a philosopher of social science and Munson a philosopher of biology and medicine.

Greek Week Takes It To The Limit

by Laura Berardino
associate features editor
and
Tom Kovach
sports editor

The serenity of the UM-St. Louis campus will for a moment cease in the midst of Greek Week as seven greek organizations get into the competitive spirit.

While the campus may not turn into an Athens, many greek members say that Greek Week is the



time each group takes it to the limit to shoot for coveted awards.

"It's competition that's supposed to be friendly. You may have only five guys in one event, but you have the whole chapter backing them up. It's an activity that involves the entire chapter; actives, pledges, and girlfriends," stated Brian Hahn of Sigma Tau Gamma.

To most GDIs (god damn independents), Greek Week or the Greek system for that matter is summed up in the movie's stereotype of Animal House and Revenge of The Nerds. Hollywood portrays the fraternity members as rowdy, obnoxious, drunks after loose women, chasing the pleasure principle at any cost.

This stereotype may be a result of the mystery that often shrouds the system and its traditions.

But the Greeks on this campus, are making attempts to fight stereotyping. By helping out their

community or just lending a helping hand to a pledge or an associate in a class, greeks know that labels of hazers and of party-animals are unjust.

Here is what many Greeks at UM-St. Louis think and feel about their community and their role in it.

Zeta Tau Alpha

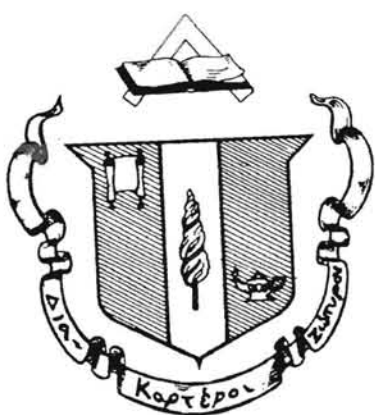
"Zeta Tau Alpha was founded in 1898, by nine women who bound together in love and friendships." Carolyn Basile, chapter president stated. They have been a member of the greek community at UM-St. Louis since 1977.

"What sets Zeta apart from the other sororities is that the our sorority is the only one founded on the principle of friendship, which is in our charter," Karen Mick stated.

"Our purpose is to promote happiness among our members, provide service to the world, and to make members well-rounded individuals," Basile added.

Most greek organizations have a special philanthropy, or service for the community. Zetas are no different.

"Our philanthropy is the Association of Retarded Citizens," Mick said. "In January, we helped University Relations by dressing up in prom dresses to serve punch at a fund raiser. Coming up at the end of April, we're sponsoring a dance at SLARC [St. Louis Association For Retarded Citizens]."



Alpha Zeta Delta

The objective of the 26 member Alpha Zeta Delta is to "build sisterhood and help create their career skills and leadership," Alpha Zeta Delta President Beth Fuller said.

When a new pledge enters the sorority, Fuller said that there will always be a sorority member to help them — both for the present and later in the life. "UMSL is not a warm campus and you have friends in classes... even alumni do things for us," she said.

Alpha Zeta Delta also participates in aiding the American Lung Association.

Fuller added that the rules for this year's Greek Week are better and safer because "last year, they were really worried about pyramid building because girls said there backs were hurting."

Tau Kappa Epsilon

Just like the Army motto, the philosophy outlined by TKE at the start of the year is "we are a diversified group that offers individuality and the potential to be the best man you can be," according to Mark Monday.

If one ever considers being a pledge for the TKEs, watch how you use the word pledge. According to Monday, "associate" is preferred over the word "pledge."

"Each fraternity is the same," Monday said. "The key is to show

how much a friend you are. We don't try to put anybody lower. Other organizations put them lower by doing gig books and cleaning house. We show them they are not just a member."

Actives as well as alumni are concerned with Cystic Fibrosis often help with fund raisers for this cause. "Like the Monopoly Tournament," Monday said.

Unlike Fuller, Monday insists that the problem in the Greek Week system is the size of each organization and how much other greeks dominate the event. "The bad part is the size. There's no rule to help the little guy. It's like the big shark and the little fish competing for food. We get eaten up. It's minor versus major," he said.

Sigma Tau Gamma

"Our slogan Sig Tau, 'nuff said' says everything. Really, our basic ideology is that we're here at UMSL to benefit the students at large. We help them through our organization because we help prepare them for life in general: for the work force, for social interaction, and to make the college experience something that they'll never forget. It gives others a chance to make lifelong friendships," Tim Flanagan, Sigma Tau Gamma president stated.



The Sig Taus take special care of the senior citizens of Belleridge on Thanksgiving. "We cook all the food and serve them, serve them. Most of them are shut-ins so they really like it," Keith Emms said.

Being a part of one of the larger fraternities on campus, Flanagan didn't seem to have a problem with the current rules.

"We've also had as few as twelve active members in our fraternity," Flanagan said. "But there's going to be a time when we have twelve and someone else has fifty guys."



You can't change the rules every year to accommodate. Besides, there's no event that needs thirteen guys. The main thing for greek week is to bring the organizations closer together," he said.

Delta Zeta

The Delta Zetas mascot, the turtle, is a symbol of their motto: "Behold the mighty turtle, for she only makes progress when she sticks her neck out," Cathy Jaworski explained. "In order to be successful, we need to get out there and start things ourselves, rather than wait for people to do things for us."

Their motto must be working. They just won best philanthropy project at their state meeting this past weekend. "It was a very big honor especially since we're one of the smallest chapters in Missouri," Jaworski continued. "Our philanthropy is St. Joseph's [program] for the hearing impaired." They will be selling helium



balloons this year during Greek week to benefit St. Joseph's. "The balloons will be let off Saturday. Whoever's balloon goes the farthest will win a prize."

Delta Zetas are also concerned with academic achievement. "We really stress scholarship and maintaining at least a 2.2 grade point average to initiate. Every week we pass around a skip can. Everytime you skip a class, you have to put a quarter in."

Sigma Phi

While UM-St. Louis is celebrating the 25th anniversary, the Sigma Phi fraternity is celebrating their 20th year on campus.

"We are a very down to earth fraternity. We pride ourselves on academics," said John Hoell. "We've had the highest grade point average of the greeks for awhile now."

See GREEKS page 5



Determination Overcomes Wheelchair

by John Arnold
contributor

"I have noticed many obstacles in my path, but nothing can discourage the dreams and goals that I have set for myself."

Dwain Bollinger's strong and determined declaration is an understatement. Unable to take notes, eat in the cafeteria, or get to and from school unassisted, Bollinger continues to press forward toward a degree at UM-St. Louis. These are only a few of the difficulties that must be overcome everyday for this 28 year old who has cerebral palsy.

At first glance most people only see how different Dwain is.

They see his wheel chair and his slight frame hunched forward in it. Perhaps they notice his thicker-than-average neck, and the jerky motion of his arms. However, his ice-washed jeans, white high tops, his hair spiked on top and long in the back reveal that beyond his disability he is like any other young male college student.

"I'm regularly a happy and carefree guy who goes through the same frustrations, good times and struggles as any other male," Bollinger stated.

On the other hand, he also said "Most of my life has been one fight

after another because of my disability." The most difficult struggle as a student has been overcoming the opposition of people who believed he would be a failure.

Beginning at birth, doctors told his parents that the best thing they could do would be to find a suitable institution "because I would be nothing but a vegetable for the rest of my life."

Fortunately, his parents were determined to raise him as much like any other child as possible. When Dwain was six, they moved from rural Berger, Missouri to St. Louis so that he could attend the Special School District.

Like someone completing a sentence during a yawn, Bollinger's words are thick and distorted due to his speech impediment. Talking about his grade school experiences, he said "The teachers let me get away with anything. They would let me take a nap or talk and I would cry if I wasn't given my own way. I usually did get my own way. I don't think that is right, but I was a kid and didn't know."

All that changed in the fifth grade.

In fifth grade Bollinger had a new teacher, Mrs. Johnson. He thought this middle-aged black elementary school teacher would be like all his other teachers.

"Boy was I mistaken. Mrs. Johnson made me work all during the day without letting me lie down for a nap. For three solid weeks, I used to go home on the bus in tears crying to my parents."

His parents visited the class and spoke with Mrs. Johnson. She told them that she felt Dwain had the ability to become a good student with some help from her.

Through her persistence, he soon "started to enjoy learning" and stopped complaining about doing homework.

"I love her and am thankful that I had her. She changed my life around completely." Emphatically, he added, "If I hadn't had her, I wouldn't be at a university today — no way! And you can quote me on that."

Bollinger began to dream of getting a high school diploma. Bollinger expected to attend high school and switch classes with all his friends.

However, his expectations were shattered when he realized that he would be in a self-contained classroom with one teacher. His disappointment deepened when he discovered that he would be in school until he was 21 and only receive a Certificate of Completion.

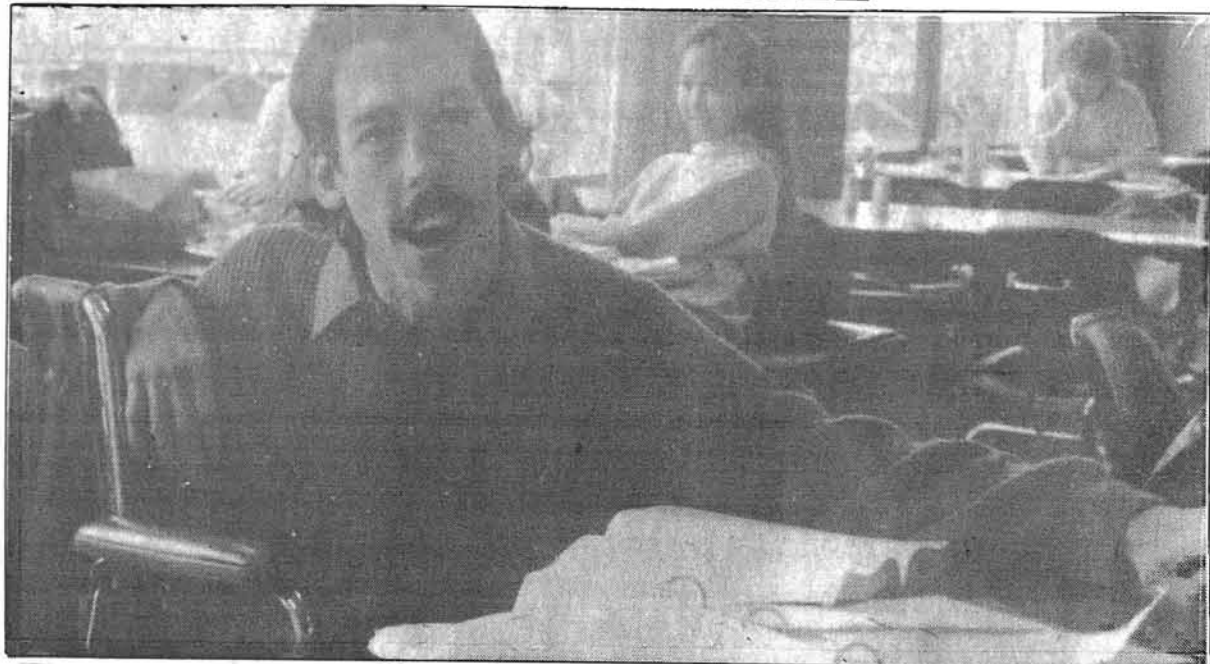
"That isn't anything. What good is that? You can't go to college or get a job with it. So, I raised Cain."

His parents spoke to his teacher and convinced her to let him take two regular classes, even though she was positive he would fail.

Contrary to her pessimism, Dwain took American History and English and came out with a "B" in each. From eighth grade on, Bollinger took regular classes and graduated with good grades when he was twenty.

Florissant Valley Community college is where Bollinger started his journey into higher education. "I wanted to get my feet wet."

While at Florissant Valley, he was recognized as the disabled student



John Kilgore

with the highest grade point average in 1982. In he received 1987 the Outstanding Student in Human Services Award. In the spring of 1987, he graduated with and associate degree in human services.

Even though Bollinger was an exceptional student, the college required that he have an attendant. "I hated it because people would talk to my attendant instead of me."

UM-St. Louis has been quite different. He attends without the aid of an attendant. "I am finding that I meet more people and make more friends without an attendant. I like

it; that's what life is all about. I don't like to be sheltered. I want to be free," he said.

Being a student is part of his plans to become free and independent. Presently, he is working on a Bachelor of Arts in general studies, with a focus on writing. He is also taking a correspondence course in children's literature.

Even though his disability limits his employment opportunities, he

feels that he will be able to get a job after college. "I hope I'm not fantasizing about getting a job, but I don't think I am — I have got too much to offer. I can't give up."

If Dwain's past is any indication of his future he is destined by raw determination to achieve whatever he desires. "Hopefully, someday in the future, individuals who know me

and my capabilities will figure out that just because I'm a disabled individual who uses a wheel chair, doesn't mean I'm not capable of many accomplishments.

"The most important thing that I wish individuals would learn is that I'm a human being with or without my wheelchair which is a piece of equipment to get me from place to place."

'Dream Team' Receives 'Cuckoo' Reviews

by Eileen Pacino
movie reviewer

If you think there is something patently offensive about featuring characters with mental problems in a comedy/action film, then don't attend "The Dream Team." Not only are serious psychoses and behavioral disorders the basis for humor, but those afflictions are given a fantasy scenario in which the sufferers seem to not only rise above their maladies, but use them in "heroic circumstances"—a highly unlikely event.

Unfortunately, the majority of the average person's encounters with the mentally ill on the streets of our cities is not like that seen here. It's rather as destitute and defenseless homeless whom we so carefully try to avoid as we go about our daily grind. There is nothing funny about their situations.

However, if you see these por-

trays as effective caricatures of human frailties, obsessions, compulsions forced to contend with the "normal" world of impersonal bureaucratic heartlessness, then the film will yuck your socks off.

Each character's unique "personality" is clearly drawn and consistent throughout. The writers, Jon Connolly and David Louka, must be admirers of Milos Forman's "One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest" because that award-winning film is called to mind again and again.

Michael Keaton's character Billy, who is basically normal, of above-average intelligence and street smart, has a psychotic temper and spells of violence that he can't control. Drugs have calmed him down, but when the film opens, he is "coming off his medication"—in this case, thorazine. He is having a rough time assuming a kinder, gentler attitude. Billy would like to be a writer, but his mental rages seem to block any literary flow.

His only creative outlet is his daily "therapy" with three other patients under the care of an unbelievably compassionate and personally involved psychiatrist, Dr. Weitzman (Dennis Boutsikaris, "Batteries Not Included").

"At first they scatter like mutts breaking out of a dog catcher's wagon. How they attempt to cope with the real world of garbage collectors, bar patrons, holy rollers and peace officers creates a lot of laughs."

Another maladjusted participant in the group is an obsessive compulsive, former postal employee, Henry Sikorsky (Christopher Lloyd). Lloyd is fabulous as a man compelled to pick up after the world, to make sure everyone's "area is clear." He also has a talent

for impersonating the Cedarbrook Psychiatric Institute's doctors, earning Billy's sarcastic nickname of "Dr. Demento."

Completing the group are Jack McDermott (Peter Boyle) and Albert Jannuzzi (Stephen Furst). Jack

is a former advertising executive who now believes he's Jesus Christ. Albert is mute, other than to offer baseball jargon exclamations during moments of stress.

Departing from the "Cuckoo's Nest" plot, this group of patients doesn't have to fight the system

within the institution. The men make their bid for independence when they are separated from their doctor on a trip to Yankee Stadium.

At first they scatter like mutts breaking out of a dog catcher's wagon. How they attempt to cope with the real world of garbage

collectors, bar patrons, holy rollers and peace officers creates a lot of laughs.

Unfortunately, Connolly and Louka decided to turn satire into

cheap adventure when the boys are forced to "rescue" Dr. Weitzman

from the murderous intent of two corrupt cops (Philip Bosco, James Remar).

As the unofficial leader, Billy discovers a way to channel his anti-social drives into an acceptable avenue, and his compatriots make

unexpected and "hopeful" discoveries about their "conditions" while they begin to exert a fractured

control over their circumstances. Much of the interaction between the men is nothing more than sophisticated Three Stooges routines.

A schizophrenic picture of the mental health profession is painted: first caring, then inept and just asking to spend a little time in its padded cell.

Keaton gives a performance just to the left of his "Clean And Sober" role and not much further to the right of "Beetlejuice."

But Lloyd's endearing duck walk, tight lipped timidity and Boyle's benevolent beatitudes ensure you

won't sleep during "The Dream Team."

A Universal release, rated PG-13 for language.

GREEKS

They achieve this by limiting the amount of parties during certain times of the semester.

Although this group has only fifteen actives, they are very involved in the community. One may have noticed them standing on the corner selling papers for Old Newsboys Day. "Our major philanthropy is Muscular Dystrophy. We help them a couple of times each year," Hoell stated. They donated money to the twentieth anniversary celebration.

"Sure, we'd like to be larger but we don't want to get a bunch of members that don't contribute anything to our fraternity. We consider ourselves a pretty tight knit group." Referring to greek week Hoell stated, "Size hurts us alot especially with the big games like softball and tug-of-war. Other groups can have members that specialize in certain events while most of our members are in most of the events."

Phi Kappa Alpha

"When someone rushes, we like to tell them about the opportunities the fraternity has for them at school," stated David Dickman,

treasurer of Phi Kappa Alpha fraternity. "Granted, we have parties, but there's other things such as intramural sports that we get involved in. We hold high ideals on our scholastics. We like to socialize and meet new people, that's what it's all about."

Gaspere Calvaruso, Pike president feels that the main purpose of fraternal life is, "To make campus life enjoyable to the fullest by being involved."

Their involvement goes into the Normandy area as well. Every year they sponsor a pumpkin pie eating contest and send the proceeds to the St. Vincents orphanage.

"Every year we choose a house in the area to paint. Last year we footed the cost of paint for a home in Bel Ridge," Calvaruso stated.

Steve Muffler, a pike member wasn't concerned about the differences in sizes among the fraternities.

The opening ceromont for Greek Week will be held, on the University center patio at 1 pm Monday. Awards for the most active greek, scholarship and physique will be given out.

Man's Presence...

by John Kilgore
reporter

An exhibit of photographs titled "Man's Presence in the Desert Lands of America," is being held in room 362 SSB. The exhibit, through the end of April, features the work of photographer Richard Misrach.

The display is part of a series of exhibits sponsored by the Center for Metropolitan Studies. Each month, a new exhibit of work, usually photographs, is featured in the lobby of the offices of the Center.

"It's not a precious gallery space," said Jean Tucker, a Fellow in the Center for Metropolitan Studies. "It doesn't have the holy atmosphere of a museum."

Tucker said the Center tries to feature photographs whose subject matter has something to do with metropolitan issues. "But sometimes it's hard to tell where the city stops and the country begins," she said.

According to Tucker, the current exhibit deals with man's presence in the environment.

Tucker said that despite the fact that the Center has no budget for the exhibits, she gets requests from photographers and galleries all across the country to display their work.

The exhibits are funded by grants from the Missouri Arts Council and the Regional Arts Commission.

Also on display this month is the Pulitzer Prize-winning photograph by St. Louis Post-Dispatch contributor Ron Olschwagner. The photo features a fireman trying to save the life of a child he rescued from a burning building.

In the past, the gallery has displayed the work of nationally known photographers, including the work of Joel Meyerowitz, photographer for the book, "St. Louis and the Arch."

Tucker said that exhibits are chosen for the quality of work and then for subject interest. "We try to show good work and things that deal with issues we're all concerned about," she said.

Tucker pointed out that UM-St. Louis is one of a few universities that offers a certificate in photographic studies as part of its



FROM THE DESERT LAND: "Camouflaged Soldier", a photo by Richard Misrach from his study "Three Days At Edwards Air Force Base: The Shuttle Landing." Twenty-one of Misrach's photos are on display this month at the gallery in 362 SSB.

curriculum. The certificates are available, through the Art department, for students completing a minimum of 18 hours in photographic studies.

"The Center has become a sort of conduit for information about photography," Tucker said.

Scheduled for next month is a photo essay titled, "Another River City, Pittsburgh in the '50s." The exhibit will feature the work of W. Eugene Smith, who has been called the world's leading photojournalist. The late artist's work will be on display through the end of June.

UM-St. Louis National Eating Disorders Awareness Week

April 24 — 28

Monday, April 24:

"Compulsive Overeating"
speaker: Marian Hirsch, M.S.W.
10 — 11 a.m.
72 J.C. Penney

Tuesday, April 25:

"Anorexia and Bulimia"
speaker: Nancy Ellis-Ordway from the Anorexia and Bulimia Treatment and Education Center
11 a.m. — noon
126 J.C. Penney

Wednesday, April 26

"Anorexia and Bulimia"
speaker: Nancy Ellis-Ordway
10 — 11 a.m.
229 J.C. Penney

sponsored by Horizons Peer Counselors and the Student Health Center
For more information call Angie at 553-5730.

A Blue Metal Building Or What

by Greg Albers
reporter

For the two years that I have attended this fine institution, there

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has always been a mystery that at times has kept me up at night.

What goes on in the Blue Metal Building?

I just assumed it was a toxic waste dump site or a condom recycling plant. But then I started working for the Current about a month ago, and I discovered it was home to, among other things, the student newspaper. Boy was I disappointed.

Now I work here and although the mystery of its purpose is gone, something still troubles me about this place.

Why is it called the Blue Metal Building? I am not looking for the obvious answer. What I want to know is why can't a nationally recognized university come up with an original name for a building?

I mean, here we are, a bunch of talented, creative journalists working in a building named for its color and its materials... go figure.

The other day, I told a friend that I started working at the paper. He said, "Maybe I'll drop in on you sometime. Where is it?"

"It's on the UMSL campus," I said.
"In the Blue Metal Building."

"Okay. So does this building have a name?"



"Well, that is the name."
"Oh, the Blue Metal Building. What do they call the library, the Red Brick Building? What kind of hoosiers are you people anyway?"
"I dunno."

"Do you have any real names for your buildings?"
"Well, there's the J.C. Penney Building."
"Oh swell. After school can you stop by and pick up some drapes?"
Sorry folks, I'm going to have to end the story here, the rest is not pretty. But you get the idea.

Although the name "Blue Metal Building" is extremely accurate and self explanatory, it's also embarrassing and it has to go.

Now, I know most of you are probably thinking, "this guy has entirely too much free time," but this is really bothering me. So here is what

I propose.

We could have a contest, sort of a named-by-the-people-for-the-people kind of thing. Now, we're looking for style and originality, so

please, let's keep it clean.

So, just drop off your suggestion at the Current office in the building to be named later. The building where we fight for truth, justice, and better names for boring buildings.

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for the Current

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Teams Seek Recruits To Sign Letters of Intent

by Tom Kovach
sports editor

Coaches on the UM-St. Louis Rivermen basketball team say that this year's recruits for next season look to be promising, despite the loss of 6'6" East Central Junior College player Dan Dohogne.

The signing date for a national letter of intent began yesterday and runs through May 15. Head Basketball Coach Rich Meckfessel said that he doesn't expect to sign any-

body this week because most of the recruits are still looking to play at the Division I level or are still visiting other schools.

"In the seven years that I have been here, we have only signed three players on the national signing date," he said. "It's going to be a while."

Meckfessel and the coaching staff say they are looking to fill the void left by three departing seniors: guard Jeff Wilson, forward Kevin Morganfield and center Byron

McNair. They added that the search is on for a freshman guard, a freshman inside player and an inside junior college player.

In a recent edition of the Post-Dispatch, Meckfessel said the search is on for a guard to develop behind Rivermen standout guard Chris Pilz and one of those prospects may be DeSmet High School guard Steve Roder. Meckfessel did say that no one will probably sign with UM-St. Louis until the end of April.

Assistant Basketball Coach Paul Ellis said that the loss of Dohogne to Southeast Missouri State is something not to ponder over. "It's something we can overcome. We're going to keep plugging away," he said.

Dohogne, who averaged 21 points and 10.5 rebounds a game, gave a binding commitment to with Southeast Missouri State University.

"That's a big disappointment, but I would rather lose him to them than to somebody else," Head Coach

Meckfessel said. "We knew for sometime that he was going to sign with them."

The Rivermen already have signed Mike Moore, a 6'6" forward from Lutheran South High School in St. Louis. Meckfessel said that Moore "will be an outstanding small forward or big guard for us." Moore signed with the Rivermen on November 9 during the early signing period.

After losing six seniors, Men's

Soccer coach Don Dallas foresees a rebuilding year. Dallas has received oral commitments from eight players: Brian and Kevin Hennessy from CBC, Craig Frederking and Doug Weise of Hazelwood Central, Greg Tieber of Kennedy High School, Matt Wohlstaedter of St. Louis University High, Todd Barry of Lewis and Clark Community College and Hazelwood West and Bob Triff of Florissant Valley Community College and SLUH.

Light Rail Will Run Next To Campus Soccer Stadium

by Tom Kovach
sports editor

Students looking to go to athletic events may soon have the option of going to games via a light rail system.

The St. Louis Metro Link System, instituted by Bi-State Development Agency, will begin in East St. Louis, move through downtown, through the South and North campus of UM-St. Louis and to Lambert St. Louis

International Airport.

Metro Link will consist of 31 cars and hold 350 standing and seated passengers.

More specifically, the Light Rail will come off of Florissant Road and a stop will be constructed behind the Blue Metal Office Building. Then the train will go behind Garage H, under Mark Twain drive and onto to the south side of the soccer field.

Sandra Kling, former executive

director of Citizens for Modern Transit and now a UM-St. Louis public relations official, said that about 2,000 students from UM-St. Louis will use Metro Link. The numbers, Kling said, are derived from how many students ride Bi-State bus.

Laurence Schlereth, Vice Chancellor for Administrative Services at UM-St. Louis, said that the future of light rail will be beneficial, if Metro Link becomes a spinoff.

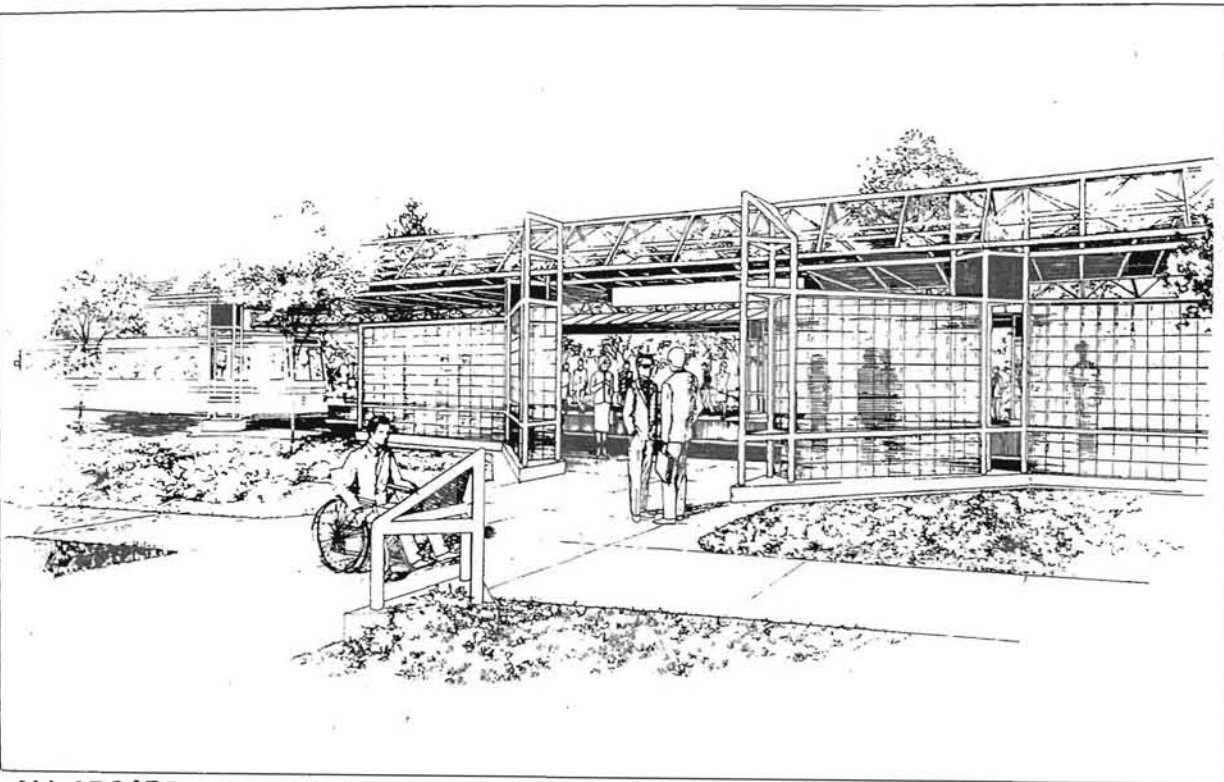
A spinoff is like what happened in Chicago — a backbone of the system is built and then other parts of the city or suburb are added on later.

"In the second of third phase, suppose there is an extension of light rail from St. Charles to UM-St. Louis. That would be very good," Schlereth said.

Schlereth did add that an extension of light rail to North and West County would take approximately 10 years. Construction on light rail is scheduled for the fall of 1991, while completion is set for 1993.

But Thomas Schnell, athletic committee chairperson at UM-St. Louis, said that two stops on campus may not draw enough students to athletic events. "If you look at where the rail is going, I don't think it's going to draw. It may draw people for basketball games," he said.

Schlereth also said that the light rail system will not interfere with play at the soccer stadium. A fence



ALL ABOARD: An artist's conception of a light rail station that would be built behind the Blue Metal Office Building. Construction is scheduled to begin in 1991 and completion is set for 1993. The track will then proceed behind Garage H and then behind the south side of the UM-St. Louis Soccer field.

with landscaping is planned.

Schnell, however, said that the noise of the train will be heard from the field.

Metro Link plans moved forward

last October when the Urban Mass Transportation Administration presented Bi-State with a \$150 million check. The objective of light rail is to provide cheaper and convenient

mode of transportation.

The Light Rail System will receive 75 percent of its funding from the federal government and 25 percent from the City of St. Louis.

Softball Team Collapse On Trip: Recover Next Day To Beat SEMO

by Tom Kovach
sports editor

A road weary Riverwomen softball team pulled into the UM-St. Louis campus last Tuesday night, trying to forget the errors and unearned runs in two games they committed against Central Missouri State and Northeast Missouri State.

Head Coach Lisa Vogler said that the 9-3 loss to Central and the 4-3 defeat to Northeast was one of those games that the Riverwomen would like to forget. "I have never seen them play so terrible," Vogler said.

In the first game, the Riverwomen gave up nine unearned runs on errors. And in the nightcap, it was the same story. All the runs by Northeast were given to them, courtesy of four Riverwomen errors.

Some of the players, including Juanita Snow, feel that it was just one of those games where nothing went right. "It was just a fluke," she said.

"We have got to forget about it and think about tomorrow," Vogler said.

The Riverwomen then came out yesterday afternoon to defeat Southeast Missouri State Uni-

sity, 4-1. Sandy Hammonds picked up the victory.

"We started to play like yesterday," Vogler said. "But then we did better than I thought."

The Riverwomen were actually showing many positive signs before they went on the road trip. Though blustery conditions cancelled five out of the seven games in the Missouri Intercollegiate Athletic Association Round Robin Tournament, the lay-off for the team may have been a blessing in disguise.

"We were talking about and I think it's a positive. Our whole season is busy. I think the break has come at a good time during the middle of the season," Vogler said.

But the best news of all came when the Riverwomen found out they were ranked 18th in last week's NCAA Division II national poll. This is the first time that the women's softball team has ever cracked the top twenty.

"People are starting to notice what we have done," Vogler said. "I feel good about it."

In addition, the team was ranked third in the Central Region, two spots behind Central Missouri State and Wayne State.

But the question that is on the mind of Vogler is can the team uphold the ranking?

"We can't get too overconfident. We still have to go out and beat everybody else. More teams are going to go out and try to beat us," Vogler warns.

Rolla and Northwest Missouri State attempted to knock out the Riverwomen by taking them to extra innings at the MIAA Round Robin Tournney. But the Riverwomen, behind the strong pitching of sophomore Leslie Paquet and Hammonds, scored runs in both extra sessions.

In the first game, Paquet had her strongest pitching performance of the season so far. The sophomore picked up her third win of the year by allowing two hits in 12 innings against the Lady Miners. The Riverwomen won 4-0.

"I told her how important it is because Sandy is hot. Teams are starting to see her [Hammonds] more. So it was a confidence builder for her," Vogler adds.

All the runs that the Riverwomen needed came in the 12th inning. After ten innings, each team is allowed a baserunner on second. Vogler inserted Houska in the top of the 12th. Heather McNeil came

on and hit a shot over first base to score Houska.

Melanie Wynn then got on base and Kim Cooper drove her on a hit to center field.

With McNeil and Cooper on base, Sherry Heath hit a long single, knocking in McNeil and Cooper.

15 minutes later, the Riverwomen went to the next field and played the Northwest Missouri State Lady Bearcats.

With Northwest leading 1-0 in the bottom of the fourth, Kellie Leach lined a triple to center field. Cooper picked up her second RBI of the day with a single.

The Riverwomen had plenty of chances to put the game out of reach, but they stranded to many baserunners.

After Cooper tied the score at 1-1, her and Snow pulled off a double steal. But the Riverwomen, with two outs, couldn't drive those runners in.

In the sixth inning, Cooper began a two-out rally with a double. But Snow couldn't advance her.

"We kind of anticipated that we wouldn't score alot. It was just one of those things, but we held on," Vogler said.

In the tenth inning, Vogler again

inserted Houska at second. Heath came to plate, hoping to advance Houska to third. She bunted and Northwest attempted to throw out Houska at third. The throw sailed over the third baseman, scoring Houska and giving the Riverwomen a 2-1 victory.

The Riverwomen travel this

weekend to the Showboat Classic at Southeast Missouri State. Next weekend, the MIAA Conference Championship will be at Missouri-Rolla.

"If we play good ball," Vogler said, "we could have a nice record going into the conference tournament."

Rivermen Even Out At .500 Behind Hitting, Pitching

Pitching and some timely hitting added up to 10-1 and 9-3 victories over the Washington University Bears last Sunday. The sweep improved the Rivermen's baseball record to 11-11.

In the first game, Rob Rixford, a freshman from Pattonville High School, went the distance, allowing five hits to pick up his first collegiate victory. He lowered his Earned Run Average to 2.60 with the win.

In the nightcap, Jim Foley and Brain Solovic scattered nine hits. Our pitching has been excellent," Head Coach Jim Brady said. "If it continues, this team has the potential to get on a roll."

Other pitchers who have come through for Brady include Freshman Tom Broyles. Broyles is second on the team in strikeouts and had a 2.66 ERA. He has the only save on the team.

The sweep ended what was a positive week for the Rivermen. On Wednesday April 5, they split a pair of games with Southeast Missouri State.

Brady's squad lost to the Indians 5-3 in the first contest, but came back to take the second game 6-3. The latter victory improved their record to 3-1 in the Missouri Intercollegiate Athletic Association South Division.

Two days later, the Rivermen lost a tough 7-3 decision to Southwest Missouri State. Before the Bears had a chance to put away the Rivermen with three late runs, Brady's team was only down 4-2 early.

The hitting of Warren Dey has also given the team a boost. The third basemen went 4-for-7 with six RBIs in the win over Washington University. For the year, he is batting .344.

"Ever since we inserted him in the line-up, he has been a catalyst for us. The guy is a gamer," Brady said.

Another hitter making noise on the bat is Dan Kiely. The McCluer North graduate has moved up to the top of the career doubles list at UM-St. Louis. He is also tied for fifth in career home runs (13), only five behind Joe Kister.

MIAA Members Propose Changes

Missouri Intercollegiate Athletic Association Athletic Directors and Committee chairpersons will conclude the annual conference meeting at the Lake of the Ozarks today. On the agenda will be a report from Dr. Bill Stacy, president of Southeast Missouri State University. Southeast is considering a move from Division II to Division I.

Ken B. Jones said.

Other items to be discussed are a recommendation to change the conference name and a motion that only five members from the league be allowed to play soccer against each other once. Current MIAA rules state that half of the league members must participate in a sport in order for play.

The MIAA now has four new members to its present eight teams. Joining the conference are Washburn University, Pittsburg State University, Missouri Southern and Missouri Western.

Southeast's potential move may have a bearing on the long range planning schedule for football and basketball, MIAA commissioner

Sports Briefs

By winning three consecutive matches this week, the UM-St. Louis men's tennis team is off to their best start in 14 years. Last week, the Rivermen shut out St. Louis University 9-0, topped Webster University 5-1 and beat Missouri-Rolla 6-3.

The record of 8-3 represents the team's fastest start since 1975 when the squad won its first eight out of eleven matches.

"The attitude of the players right now is great," Head Coach Jeff Zoellner said.

Some of the keys to winning this year have been the play of seniors Brad Compton, Scott Stauffer and Mike Higgins.

Compton and Stauffer are 6-3 in singles action. Higgins has posted a 9-2 record. "The three

seniors have been the big story," Zoellner said.

Other impressive players are Bob Sander, Dave O'Gorman and John Fredricks. Sander and O'Gorman are 7-3 and 8-2 in singles play respectively, while Fredricks is 4-1.

□ □ □

After playing six matches on the road, the UM-St. Louis Women's Tennis team returns home Thursday, Friday and Saturday to play three matches.

Today the Riverwomen team takes on Missouri Western State College. On April 14-15, the squad plays in the UM-St. Louis Triangular meet. Besides UM-St. Louis, Northwest Missouri State and Lincoln University will compete.

All matches start at 3 p.m.

□ □ □

Jim Niederkorn's Men's Golf team will compete this Saturday and Sunday in the Bradley University Golf International

held at Lick Creek Golf Course in Pekin Ill.

□ □ □

The UM-St. Louis Red and Gold Club is an organization that rewards student-athletes with scholarship assistance from members of the campus community.

There are six different donation levels. From \$25 to \$100, members may receive such benefits as a tax deduction, membership card, invitations to special events, a newsletter, program recognition, preferred parking, VIP room privileges, media guides, all-sports athletic pass (for members and a guest) and special recognition awards.

For more information, call the UM-St. Louis Athletic Department at 553-5121.

□ □ □

Using historic photographs and documents, an exhibit called "Women In Sports" is on display on the third floor in the

Thomas Jefferson Library. The display runs through April 28 and depicts women's struggle to gain social acceptance in sports. For more details, call 553-5820.

□ □ □

Tomorrow is the deadline for the Sports Day and Barbeque and the Mirthday Goofy Games. The Sports Day and Barbeque starts at noon at the Mark Twain Field on Sunday April 16. Mirthday begins on April 19. Also, the Frisbee Golf Tournament will take place at the Mark Twain Building from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. The games start Monday April 17 and run through April 21.

For more information, stop by the Intramural Office in room 203 Mark Twain Building or call 553-5125.

□ □ □

Students with a proper UM-St. Louis identification card are admitted free into home events, excluding National Collegiate Athletic Association games.

Correction

In the April 6 edition of the Current, "Facing Off: Students Look To Form UMSL Hockey Club," Wayne Gholson's name was spelled incorrectly.

The Current regrets any confusion this may have caused.

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Personal

Rachel: So do you want to
go to OZZIE'S again to
meet old men, get drunk,
then get a free meal. Next
time we should jump over
to the OZ. There we could
kick it up all night! Lady D.

Paul, I love you soooooo
much! Your cuddle buddy,
Laura.

Sandy - When the big
plaster thing finally comes
off, we'll really party!
Thanks for being there for
me! Remember our
song?!

My dearest Paul, finally,
your long-awaited
personal I hope it's worth the
wait. I love you very much!
Your forever sweetheart,
Laura.

Good luck Matt! You were
raised to be charming not
sincere! Love Shelby.

Hey Mick, next time don't
fill the tub so full!!



Look to
the Classifieds

**HEY HOT LIPS-THANKS
FOR A GREAT TIME!
LET'S DO IT AGAIN SOON,
BUT THIS TIME WITHOUT
THE WATER!**

**TOM-THANK YOU FOR
THE FLOWERS. HOW
ABOUT A PICNIC!
LAURIE.**

**TO MATH 30/40 T.A.'S.
THANKS FOR EVERYTHING.
I REALLY HAVE FUN
WITH YOU GUYS. TAKE IT
EASY AND DO REMEMBER
.....LIFE IS CRAZY.
ND**

To My Passion Penguin,
The summer sun is only a
few weeks away. Are you
ready to melt the igloo?
Priscilla.

To all Swim Team members.
Now that the season
is over, doesn't mean you
have to stop working out.
Come to free swim for a
real workout. What are you
afraid of? Losing your
pride? Steven.

Aimee, Congratulations on
winning the Student
Affairs Award and good
luck in next week's election.
I know you can do it!
Jerome.

PIKES, YOU ARE NO.1!
THINK POSITIVE AND GO
FOR IT!

PI KAPPA ALPHA, GOOD
LUCK THIS COMING
WEEK TO THE MOST
SPECIAL GROUND OF
MEN IN THE WORLD. I
LOVE YOU GUYS! XOXO-
XOXO, CINDY BEAR.

PIKES, YOU ARE THE
BEST! PIKE DOMINATION
RULES!

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY DELTA
SIGMA PI, ETA NU CHAPTER,
MAY 14TH AND
REACTIVE BIRTHDAY
APRIL 2ND!!**

TO ALL THE ZETAS -
THANKS FOR MAKING
ME FEEL SO WELCOME. I
REALLY APPRECIATE
ALL YOU'VE DONE! I AM
VERY EXCITED ABOUT
BEING A ZETA SISTER!
THANKS AGAIN!! GOOD
LUCK IN GREEK WEEK!

PHI - PHI - K - A TO MY
FELLOW SISTERS.

Tau Kappa Epsilon raises
the ole Grey Goblet to
Brad Palmer President
and Dan Rose Vice
President.

Congrats! We know Iota Xi
is no.1! Let's go for five
next year! Love ya all -
MEAN-O.

**HEY HEY DELTA ZETAS!
BOW TO WILLIS - HE'LL
SHOW US THE WAY!
ENERGY GALORE! LET'S
DO IT AGAIN!**

**ATTITUDE CHECK!
DELTA ZETA'S NO. 1!**

Diane, I'm hip otis is hot
let's go to an Illinois bar
over twenty one
sweetheart. Love Rae.

BUD * BUSCH * BEAST
THOUGH TRUE AS MIC
... DRY.

My Honey Bunn I can't wait
till we get to 'talk' this
weekend.

Sig Tau!!! NUFF SAID

**Best of luck Sig Taus. I
know it will be three in a
row. Shelley.**

Brothers of Sigma Tau
GAMMA: Thank you for
crowning me as your
queen. I am honored to be
your queen. Love ya!
Shelley.

To the ladies of Alpha Xi
Delta, Delta Zeta and
Delta Tau Alpha. Good
luck and enjoy Greek
Week. Take it to limit in
89.

TO THE SISTERS OF
DELTA ZETA, BEST OF
LUCK NEXT WEEK DURING
GREEK WEEK. HANG
IN THERE BETH! A LITTLE
(OR A LOT) OF COMPETITION
NEXT WEEK - A LOT OF
PARTYING SATURDAY
NIGHT!! GOOD LUCK
GIRLS! LOVE, THE
SISTERS OF ZETA TAU
ALPHA.

Sigma Pi's: Let's show
them what we're made of.
Sigma Pi's were born to be
winners. Let's try for 15
years out of 20. Always
remember no matter what
happens, WIN WIN WIN!
From: Johnny.

**TEKES PIKES SIG TAUS
SIG PI'S DELTA ZETAS
ALPHA XI'S, GREEK
WEEK 1989. TAKE IT TO
THE LIMIT.**

**UMSL GREEKS! WE'RE
BACK! GOOD LUCK. TKE**

Greeks, Here's to fun,
loyalty, brotherhood, and
sisterhood. Let the
games begin!

**GOOD LUCK IN GREEK
WEEK! WATCH OUT FOR
THE COMPETITION! THE
SISTERS OF DELTA
ZETA.**

To all Greeks: Greek Week
competition isn't fair. It
eliminates participation
from over half of the student
body. What are you
afraid of - a little bit of competition? Steven.

**SID SAYS: 'BEST OF
LUCK TO ALL GREEKS IN
GREEK WEEK 1989'.**

**SID SAYS: 'GREEK WEEK
'89, THE YEAR OF THE
HAT TRICK!'**

Tekes, Greek Week is here
again. Let's show our
spirit. The Tekes are alive
in '89. Love, A Woman In
Red.

**HEY UMSL GREEKS,
Let's get psyched for
Greek Week. Take it to the
limit! Good luck to
everyone! Love, the
Alpha Xi's!**

Ruff TOK: Hope you do
well in Greek Week! I'm
proud of your excellent job
with flash. You're a goodie!
It's in the paper so now it's
official. Love you Dunches.
Your love Kitty.

**Good luck to Sigma Pi during
Greek Week! We have
confidence in you in you.
Love The Little Sisters!**

**GOGO GOGO GOGO GOGO
GOGO GOGO GOGO GOGO
GOGO GOGO GOGO GOGO
GOGO ALPHA XI DELTA!**

**Good luck Sigma Taus, Sig
Pi's, Tekes, Alpha Xi Zetas,
and Dee Zees love the milk
and cookie boys.**

**Delta Zetas! No mercy,
Greek Week 1989
ATTITUDE CHECK -
Let's go for 3 in a row!**

Dear Alpha Xi's, let's do our
best during Greek Week
and show everyone that
we're a team. Alpha Xi
Delta is number one!

The girls of the Alpha Xi
sorority want to wish all of
the sororities and fraternities
the best of luck in the 1989
Greek Week competition. Let's
make this year the most fun it
has ever been.

Alpha Xi Delta wishes all
Greeks the best of luck in
Greek Week '89!



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BALLOT

from page one

ing, but did not intervene.

Presidential candidate Terence
Small walked into the Student
Government office when Rothman
and McDonald were sorting ballots.
Small was outraged at the improper
appearance the situation created
and complained to several university
officials about it.

"I couldn't even get anybody to do
anything about it," Small said.
"Nobody wants to deal with it."

MacLean said the issue was one
that students should handle through
the student court.

ALDRIDGE

from page one

Steve Bratcher, election commissioner,
said that the court will hear the case in the near future. He
said that if Aldridge is found guilty
of violating election rules she could
be disqualified from the election or
the ballots cast in her favor during
the time period during which she is
alleged to have campaigned could
be disqualified.

Incumbent SGA President Jerry
Berhorst said the court would probably
limit any disqualification of
ballots to those cast between 9:15
a.m. and 12:15 p.m. Monday. He said

He did add, however, "There have
been an extraordinary number of
students come into my office with
concerns about the election."

Rothman and McDonald stopped
sorting ballots after Small
complained.

And Bratcher, acknowledging his
error, said if the candidates were
involved in handling ballots, all four
candidates should have been
present.

"But even if all the candidates
were there, we're still not supposed
to touch the ballots," Small said.

50 to 75 ballots could be affected.

Rothman said that he did not
believe the charges made against
Aldridge. "She told me herself that
she was not doing it and I believe it,"
he said. "I'll back her up all the
way."

Aldridge said that she would not
violate the election rules to win an
election.

"As far as I'm concerned, no election
is important enough to me to
compromise my values, and my
values include honesty," she said.

STUNT

from page one

Meinhold and Gorges along with
several others that he removed the
papers because of the stories and
letters to the editor.

"I told them that I took it in my
hands and did something about it,"
McDonald said. "The next thing I
know, Steve [Meinhold] hands me a
letter [renouncing ties with him]."

The papers were removed from
Clark Hall, McDonald said, but
Gorges doubted that it was the only
location that newspapers were
taken from.

"There were no Currents in the
racks at the Underground Friday
morning," Gorges said. "Monday
they suddenly reappear. If you guys
[the Current staff] didn't restock
them, who did?"

"The ramifications of what I did
came back and bit me in the ass,"
McDonald said.

Several parties, including the
Current, are considering filing
grievances with the university
against McDonald.



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SGA Election Results: The Good News And Bad

Much can be said about this week's Student Government Association elections and, unfortunately, little of it good.

First the good news. Terence Small and Laura Paige won the race for president and vice president of the SGA. We congratulate them.

Their victory is particularly sweet because Small and Paige consistently took the high road in their campaigning and avoided falling into the fight between various factions seeking power. Their campaign was marked by ethical standards that were not matched by two of the other three parties seeking the two top SGA posts.

Now the bad news.

During the final days before the election and during the election itself, several incidents occurred that make the SGA election process look like a farce at best and an outright fraud at worst.

Last Friday, UM-St. Louis First Party's vice presidential candidate Shaun McDonald decided that, because he didn't like the coverage given him by the Current in last week's election guide, he would pull a fast one and remove several hundred copies of the newspaper from the stands.

McDonald said he was trying to create a "rebellious" image of himself, and thereby gain name recognition, by spreading a rumor about removing the papers. His shenanigans backfired — badly. His running mate Steve Meinhold disavowed McDonald as his running mate and said that if McDonald won the election, he would move for immediate impeachment.

As Monday rolled around, and the election was underway, McDonald along with David Rothman were observed "helping" Election Commissioner Steve Bratcher sort ballots. Hmmm... The explanation, innocuous enough, was that Bratcher was short-handed and asked Rothman and McDonald to help him with the job.

But the situation created outrage for most people who heard about it — outrage for everyone but Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Sandy MacLean, that is. He sat watching the ballot sorting without mentioning that it didn't look too good for candidates to be handling their own election returns.

Also on Monday, charges were leveled against vice presidential candidate Karen Aldridge, alleging that she had been campaigning at a ballot box on South Campus, in violation of election rules (however those can be construed).

Aldridge vigorously denied the charge, which may have arisen from a misunderstanding by her accusers. But the issue is going to Student Court, which, even if settled, does not throw a good light on the election proceedings.

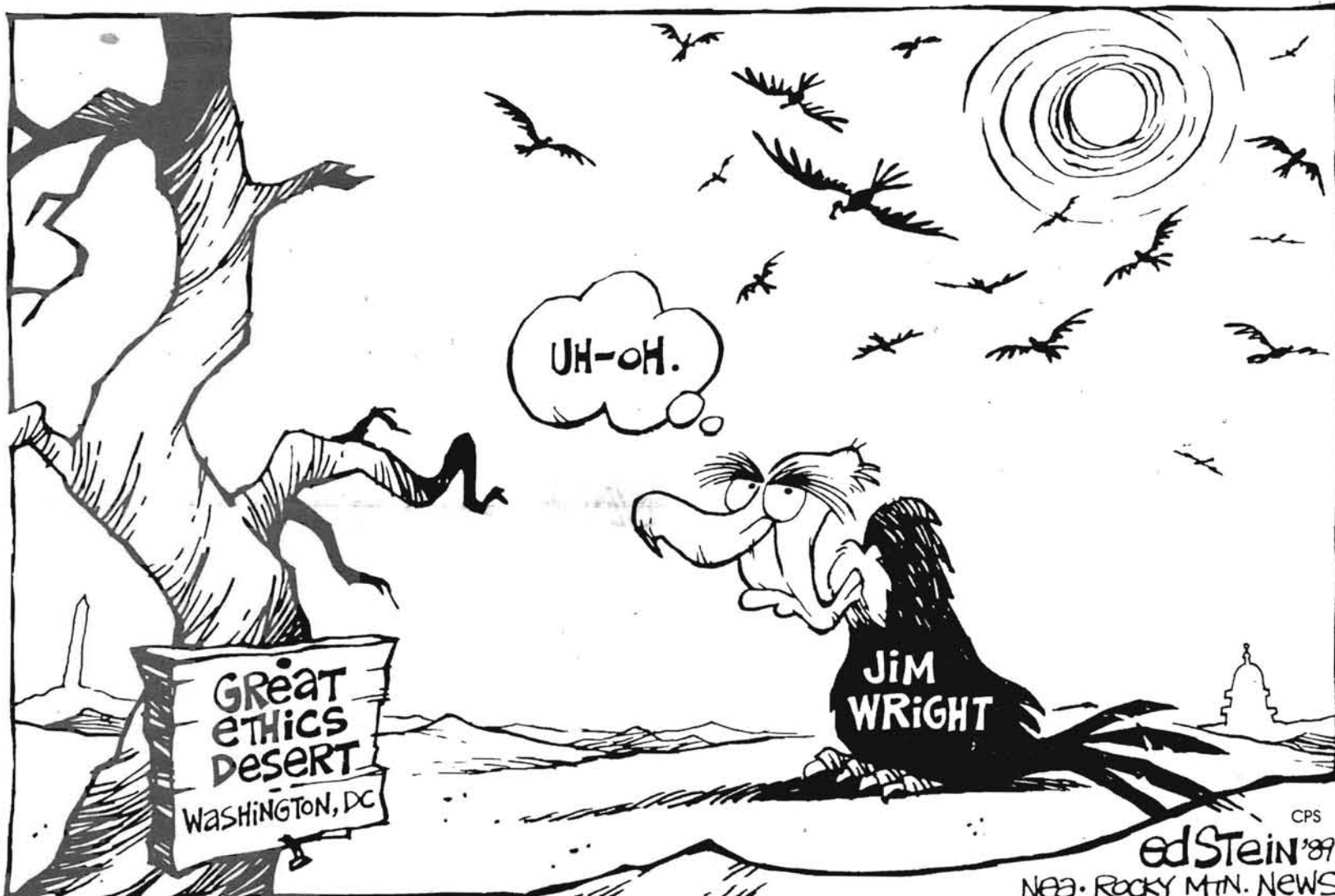
To top it off, as the final results were being tallied, student leaders realized that their method of insuring against students' voting twice was flawed. They realized that marks on student ID cards used to prevent voting more than once could be easily erased.

What is fortunate about all this foolishness, impropriety and misconduct is that it brings to light the flaws in the entire election process that must be changed.

Small has said that, after all the chaos of the election, he will take immediate steps to change the election system.

That's the best news of all. And it's the kind of news that should make everyone glad that Terence Small is the new SGA president.

HOW TO RUN A SUCCESSFUL CAMPAIGN.



How To Get Me Outta Of Here Fast

Life During Wartime

by J. Sih
contributor

It was bound to be an odd meeting. The directions I found stapled to my carry-out lunch were written in that small neat cursive that foreigners acquire from intense practice.

I should have known. It's Ramadan, the ninth month in the Muslim calendar — "the hot month." Fasting from dawn until dusk for a month or so. From the Arabic word "ramada," which means "to be hot." And you were probably thinking of the hotel.

And those capitalistic space dudes with the big ears on "Star Trek: The Next Generation" are the Ferengi. This is Farsi for, specifically, as "[English] foreigner."

But I digress. I got this note from a group calling themselves the "UMSLamic Jihad" when I reached.

for my sandwich. They sounded serious. They had an agenda. They had the indispensable blurry black-and-white press photo of a running dude holding a Molotov cocktail.

"Forest Park racquetball court number 4. 3 p.m. No cameras, tape recorders, no one to accompany you. You forgot to order to order your coffee."

I had indeed. I went to the park. At 3:08 a boy wordlessly pulled me to a nearby Toyota Corona, battle-scarred, convincingly corroded. Its bearded driver took me downtown on a dozen streets. I lost track of where I was.

"Good afternoon." The speaker identified himself as Doug, the leader of the UMSLamic Jihad.

"We have a list of demands." "But wait," I said. "You haven't done anything. You haven't planted a bomb or—"

"We've kidnapped somebody. So you better make yourself comfortable," Frank said. He smiled a little and unfolded some papers from his shirt pocket.

"One," he said, clearing his throat. "The UMSL police depart-

ment must sell those silly radar detectors and use the proceeds to bring the General Services building into the twentieth century.

"Two. We demand that the university radio station play music that many students will actually listen to. Less Debussy, Gershwin, and Bach. More Sinead O' Connor and Sugarbushes.

"Three. No more rubber grapes and laquered loaves of bread in the Underground concession area. No one can eat them and yet they seem infinitely more appetizing than anything offered to us as, uh... food.

"Four. All vending machines must have a sticker on them that tells you who to call and where to go ON CAMPUS to get a refund if you lose money in them.

"Five. Higher wages for faculty and staff, but not administration." "Six—"

"How can you expect the administration to carry out your demands?" Frank gave me a look of amuse-

ment and pity. "You'll just have to convince them, I guess."

I wasn't sure if I could do anything. I'd been hearing some mighty bleak rumors on campus recently. That the administration considered the proposed light rail station and the proposed building site for the Engineering school mutually exclusive, for instance.

I felt weak. Frank offered me some tea.

"So," I said, switching gears, "UMSLamic Jihad. Curious. Who are waging your jihad against?"

"In our holy war we fight all who do not see enlightenment and the pursuit of knowledge as ameliorating forces within the world community," Frank stated somewhat dogmatically.

"What was number six?" I almost didn't want to ask.

"There are some stories that you newspaper has not yet covered. They are important."

"Just a sec," I said. "Lemme call my editor."

LETTERSLETTERSLETTERSLETTERSLET

Weber Column On Exxon Was Unpolished Rant

To the editor:

I was alarmed at Harry Weber's column of April 6, concerning the Exxon tanker spill. Mr. Weber works himself into a froth, blaming the oil industry first for the spill, then for the poor state of public transportation. (Yes, I have trouble following the logic there, too.)

He finally advises we, the public, seek revenge on Exxon by suing the company into bankruptcy. This is

not journalism, it's an unpolished rant.

I am no fan of Exxon — I certainly question the judgement of a company that puts a twice-convicted drunk driver at the helm of a super-tanker. Still, shutting down the company isn't going to clean up Prince Edward Sound and it isn't going to make us feel any better either.

Exxon employs hundreds of thousands of people all over the world and not all of them Roc-

kefellers. Who cares if the company goes bankrupt? How about all those workers with children to feed? Is Mr. Weber going to make them all conductors on the new light-rail line?

Light-rail in St. Louis is still a chimera, anyway. So few people use public transportation now, I don't know why everyone will want to ride from East St. Louis to Lambert Airport.

Money toward light-rail con-

tinues to seem like money flowing steadily down a wide drain, which is what Exxon should be doing with all that spilled oil. But let's not sue Exxon just yet. Let's try to make sure George Bush's kinder, gentler bureaucracy enforces the law and makes them clean up their mess. The expense and effort of cleaning a thousand miles of Alaskan coast should be punishment enough.

Ted Ficklen

CURRENT

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The Current welcomes letters to the editor. The writer's student number and phone number must accompany all letters. Non-students must also include their phone numbers. Letters should be no longer than two typed, double-spaced pages. No unsigned letters

will be published, but the author's name can be withheld upon request.

The Current reserves the right to edit all letters for space and newspaper style considerations. The Current reserves the right to refuse publication of any letter.

'Papa Will': A Short Story From One of UMSL's Own

The following short story was written by Charles Warts, a lecturer in the UM-St. Louis English Department.

YOU SEE PAPA WILL was my daddy's grandpa and he must've lived to be, oohhh . . . a hundred, maybe two hundred years old because I remember seeing him more than a few times when he useta come to our house down on the grudge ditch. Not meaning no harm, but you'd haveta say that Papa Will was 'bout as po' as Job's turkey. That is his face was so thin til it looked like a prune with all the juice squeezed out of it, when ain't nothing left inside but that big ole hard seed with the skin squenched up 'round it. But you really couldn't tell too much 'bout how Papa Will looked body-wise because he always wore that ole green army coat that my daddy give him when he come back from the war.

Now to my knowledge, nobody ever seen him take it off what lived to tell the tale. But they say Papa Will wore two pearl-handled .44's under his coat, with others going so far as to say he slept thataway too. But one thing I know for myself — he was a terrible looking ole gentleman. Deadly. The kind that sends cold chills down your spine and makes your tongue taste like you sopping blood and vinegar with a week-old biscuit. That's because you never seen nobody that color. He was blue-black with granite bulging out of his jaws like tombstones. Smelled of smoke and gunpowder. And personally I never seen him so much as crack a smile. All I ever heard him say when he'd come 'round was "Hi's de peoples!" That was his greeting. Course I never hung around for too long nohow because he scared pure-o-dee hell outta me.

One day when he come to visit, we was all standing 'round out back under the peach and walnut trees. Papa tendered his usual greeting and made himself comfortable as he leaned up against Daddy's ole blue '37 Chevrolet, took out his pocket knife, drew an old piece of wood from inside his coat and started whittling one of them little statues of his what looked like real people — just like wasn't nobody else standing there but him!

It was a warm Spring day and everybody was out in they shirtsleeves except Papa who faithfully wore his overcoat buttoned up to the neck. Then up popped this ole boy called Monkey who loved to joke and jive people — and who folks said didn't have good sense. I guess they was right because wouldn't nobody else have nerve enough to cross words with Papa Will. Monkey come right up and greeted everybody, sprang up on one of the low-lying branches of the walnut tree and started in on Papa.

"Hey dere Mr. Will! Hi you been gittin' long? Kinda wome out 'cher today for dat dere overcoat ain't it?"

Papa Will never was in no hurry to say nothing to nobody and it looked like he hadn't heard Monkey. Ole Monkey hisself was just 'bout to repeat his question when Papa started to speak, his jaws working like bellows, making the hollows deeper on both sides of his face where those tombstones stuck out from everything else. Then he kind of turned his head sideways, giving the words just enough of a crack on the side of his mouth to squeeze through.

My heart was in my mouth by that time and I couldn't even breathe because I hadn't never heard nobody speak like that to Papa, and I didn't hear nobody else breathing either. The glint of those yellowish rattlesnake eyes flashed towards Monkey for an instant, and Papa spoke, touching his hand lightly to his ten-gallon cowboy hat — once as white as snow some recall — but now weatherbeaten and splotted with tobacco stains.

"You know, son . . ." and it seemed that he would go no further. Then at the very moment when everybody felt like screaming for breath he went on.

" . . . gittin' down to the fundamental principle o' de thang . . . hit's a rat po' man what don't know his own condeeshun. Matter o' fact, it feels a little bit chilly tuh me!"

Monkey let out a long howl, slapping his knees with his hands so hard until he almost fell out of the tree. Everybody knowed Monkey didn't have all that b'longed to him, but he must've been feeling his coconuts that morning.

"Youse mighty right 'bout that Mistah Will, sho is. But you know how the folks talks you into the ground 'round heah, say you sleeps wid dem two guns on. They makes a big 'miration ovah your shooting and sich. I don't mean no harm but the honest-to-Gawd truth is I just hadta spute 'em down a coupla times, but yit and still they kept rat on raising you back up on dat high hoss!"

"Way I figger," Monkey went right on yacking without hardly taking a breath, "ain't a man borned o' woman yit what don't lose some of his talents when he gits far long up in age lak you. And I knows youse rat spy, but still you ain't near 'bout no sprang chicken! Hah! Hah!"

A leaf sauntered down from the walnut tree and jarred the ground under us. Then Daddy cleared his throat and was just about to pull Monkey's coattail when Papa Will stood straight as a ramrod and flashed a look at Daddy out of them snake-eyes as he turned sideways, the bellows of his jaws working as if to keep time with the pace of his thoughts. Then finally he spoke.

"Whar 'bouts yo' people f'om son? Round heah anywheres?"

"Nawsuh! My people f'om down 'round Lake Charles way. We come offen Mistah Jesse Ford's place. Sho do!"

"Well son . . ." Papa Will was looking Monkey directly in the eye, his words falling on the air like spurts of hot lead. " . . . being as how you ain't got no people no whar 'bouts heah, ahm gon take it upon mahself to do a lil' chastisin'. You know . . . teefs and tongue will git you into some places that yo' hindparts can't carry you outta . . ."

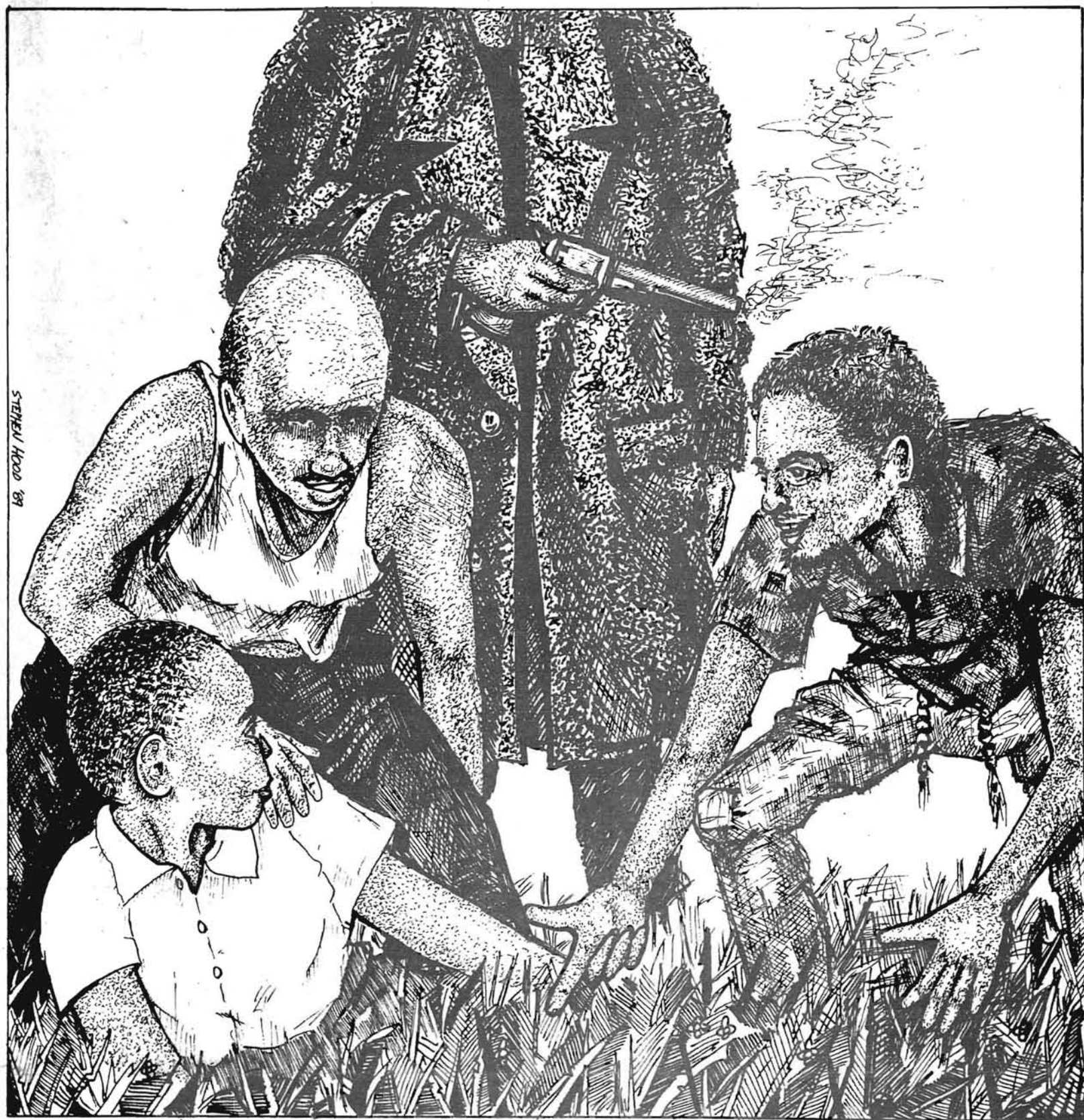
Papa Will still stood at attention like he was in somebody's army, one hand poised on the snap of his coat as that cold-blooded yellow light leaped out of his eyes at Monkey like a serpent's tongue. My collar started feeling hot and tight and I felt sorta like I was floating. And all the time I was wishing Monkey hadn't never said nothing to Papa and I knowed Monkey was wishing it too. I watched him swallow hard, and his face looked like he it was in a terrible strain as he slid down out of the tree like he was getting ready to go.

To my remembrance Papa never did walk like no old man, but more like somebody who had to be someplace in a hurry. He walked kinda sideways too, like there was a strong wind at his flank, exceptin' there wasn't no wind. Now Papa Will blew across the yard 'bout halfway to Monkey. Then stopped without so much as a twitter, like the wind suddenly died. I turned 'round to Daddy trying to read some kind of sign of what Papa might do when I saw Daddy's face flinch all of a sudden. I whirled back 'round to see Papa's coat thrown back on one side — the left side — and my heart felt like it was gon' bust my chest wide open. It was the biggest pistol that I ever seen in my life. Like the kind from back in the Civil War days that you see in the museum. I didn't even think 'bout trying to look no farther because I couldn't hardly stand lookin' at just that one. So I never did know for myself whether he toted two of them or not. Then he spoke real quiet like, without even looking at Monkey.

"Ahm gon try to learn you sumpthin son, cuz I got chillun mahself, and I don't thank yo' people down dere on the Lake will thank hard o' me fuh it."

Monkey, who seemed already to have swallowed his tongue, bowed his head gratefully and swallowed some more.

"Now I want you to look close, cuz I ain't gon show dis tuh you but once. And I wouldn't want you to miss it fuh the world!"



Monkey was still nodding his head up and down like he couldn't stop. Like he wanted to tell Papa he had to go to the toilet but couldn't get it out. So he kept looking off behind him then back again at Papa.

"Come on and walk long thisaway wid me," Papa motioned Monkey toward the grudge ditch that ran past the back of our house. Monkey flicked his head 'round like a chicken do when he senses something amiss, his eyes pleading with the four or five men standing 'round the yard to do something. But Papa Will turned 'round and looked back at him when he reached the edge of the ditch and Monkey hobbled along behind him.

A moment later Daddy and the others trailed behind Monkey — except they hung back piece-a-ways from him. All the while I stuck close to Daddy and kinda clutched onto his legs. Papa Will now walked a little way off from Monkey, took out dat big ole gun what looked like it oughta take two hands to hold it up, broke it down and checked it over. That's when Monkey strained his neck 'round behind him and got to carrying on worst than Cheetah out of one of them Tarzan movies! I mean that boy made a racket to beat the band!

"Oooohhh! Mister Cee! Mr. Ceeeeeeehh...!" He called out to Daddy with tears in his eyes. "Ooooooh! Mr. Cee...you knows me...please suh...tell him I didn't mean a bit o' harm! Tell him please suh Mr. Cee...!"

Daddy started to make a move just as Papa spun the cylinder 'round on that .44 Colt and shut it back up with a snap. Then he slid it back down into an old-timey looking holster and looked up. Daddy stopped dead still.

"You see dat snake-doctor settin ovah dere on 'top o' dat stick of Johnson grass?" Papa asked matter of fact, just like he hadn't heard nor seen a thing as he motioned toward the dragonfly about fifteen or twenty feet away, the wind barely ruffling its long thin wings spread out over the leaf of spindly grass.

"Yawsuh!" Monkey whispered and swallowed again.

"Now you watch him close boy, cuz you gon haveta be his eyes and carry the tale. I ain't gon hurt him none cuz he ain't gon see or feel nuthin. He jes might near heah the rumbling o' the death wagon, but he ain't never gon know he ridin."

Papa stepped back one pace and sorta squared himself off. Then looked hard and mean as I-dunna-what at that snake-doctor for a few seconds. A moment later he let his shoulders droop sorta and looked off towards the walnut tree like he forgot something. Before anybody knowed anything that ole .44 was in one hand while the other fanned it all in one motion, and it sounded like all hell had done broke loose down through that slough. The smoke and gunpowder hung on the air like a thin blue shroud and everybody's eyes was glued to that stalk of Johnson grass swaying slightly in the breeze.

But the snake-doctor sat just as before with his tail turned up slightly towards us, like he wasn't studdin' 'bout Papa. Daddy was

the first to walk up a few steps and look. Then he dropped his head. Nobody else moved or said anything except Papa who was now fiddling round with the pistol like a prize heifer what done just give birth.

"Well son . . . did you keep close watch on him like I tole you?" Papa asked nonchalantly without ever looking up to see if the creature was there or not.

"Nosuh . . . I mean yawsuh Mistah Will!" Monkey found his voice. "But . . . what I s'posed to see suh? He still settin' rat dere big as day!" He ventured, genuinely confused as he moved toward the snake-doctor aiming a shaky finger. Papa Will still stood fiddling with his pistol like he didn't hear Monkey. Then after the longest, with everybody holding they breath waiting for Papa to say something, he fixed Monkey with that snake-eyed look and let out a soft sigh.

"Look close, son!" He commanded in a low, deadly tone of voice that was almost pleading. "Cuz if I haveta show you agin, you gon miss it sho 'nuff!"

Monkey looked more bewildered than before as he stared helplessly at Papa with his mouth gaping open as he pointed once again to the snake-doctor. Then he met Papa's eyes and moved on up to the blade of grass where the creature was still setting peacefully. He bent over the insect just as he was starting to say something to the waiting throng behind him. Then his head jerked back so hard that a string of slobber flew out of his mouth a foot long. Then he was up on one foot hopping and hollering and jumping round like he'd just got the holy ghost.

"Hot-de-mighty-nawh! Hot-de-mighty-nawh!" He called out over and over as he turned toward us still drooling, his eyes near bout popping out his head. Everybody thought he was having a fit or something and lurched forward poised to grab him before he could run off down in the grudge ditch. But all he did was stand there pointing to that snake-doctor and yelling "Looka-dere! Jes looka-dere y'all will you please?" That's when everbody eyed the snake-doctor again trying to see what in Gawd's name was ailin Monkey, but they just couldn't figure it. Then I saw it too and was yelling my own fool head off before I knew it.

"Looka-dere y'all! Rat dere...! Dat snake-doctor ain't even got no head on him!"

That's when Daddy, my great Uncle Judge, Ole Man Too-Sweet-Johnson and the rest of the clan from out the house and everywhere closed in round me and started making a big 'miration over it. Then all at once we remembered Papa Will and turned back to the walnut tree, but he was nowhere to be seen. Right off I broke for the front road with everybody else falling in step behind me. We made it just in time to see the thin, jagged line of a whirlwind just as it rounded the bend of the sorghum field, its tattered tail flapping army green as it teased the breeze for a split second, then swept out of sight.

Warts Creates Mysticism With Short Story

"The story is meant to be a little bit mysterious," Charles Warts, author of the short story "Papa Will," said. "It's meant to create a mystique around Papa Will."

Warts, in an interview, said the story draws on the tradition of black folklore and was influenced by the work of Langston Hughes.

"It's a tall tale," he said. "You don't know where to place it in time or whether it really happened or not."

Warts said the story was

meant to have the feel of a story handed down, like folklore. The reader is meant to get a sense of the oral tradition of story telling Warts remembers from his Mississippi childhood.

"It's a tale told to the reader," Warts said. "It's a story told by the great, great grandson of Papa Will, a character who entered so much into the spirit of the story that it was like he was really there."

Warts said he based the character of Papa Will on three men he knew from his own life:

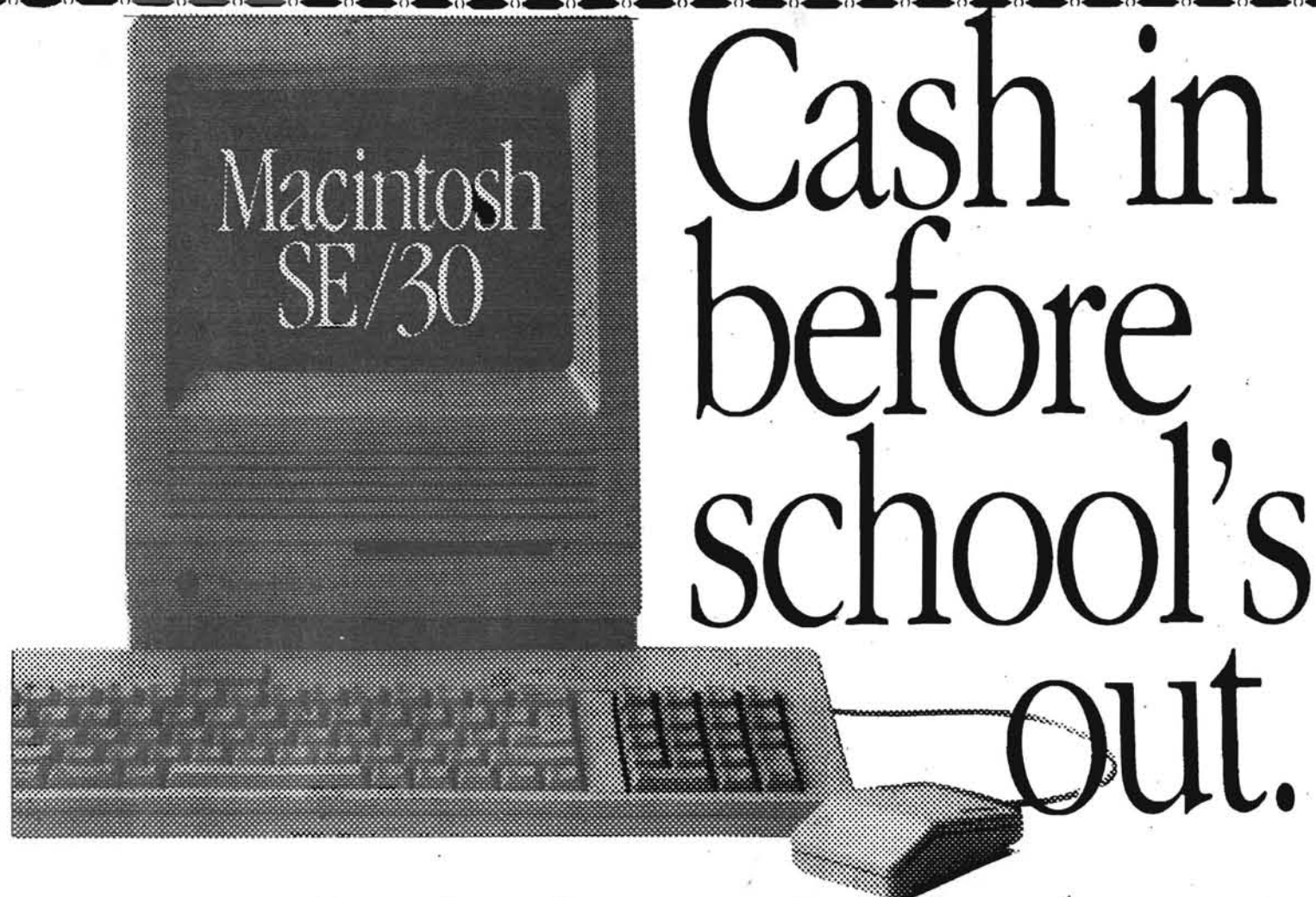
his great grandfather; a Mr. King, a man he remembered from his childhood; and on his wife's grandfather.

"My grandfather actually wore an overcoat like the one described in the story," Warts said. "Mr. King was a loner, and to me, when I was at that young age, he looked like a dangerous person."

Warts said that much of the language of Papa Will came from the speech patterns and means of expression of his wife's grandfather.

Other language in the story, he said, was a sort of combination of English and African dialect and rhythms. Warts described the language as "stretching" English to accommodate African sensibilities.

According to Warts, the character "Monkey" has a long tradition in black southern folklore. He said the "signifyin' monkey" is a character who talks about the "lion," but is saved by the fact that he is faster than the "lion."



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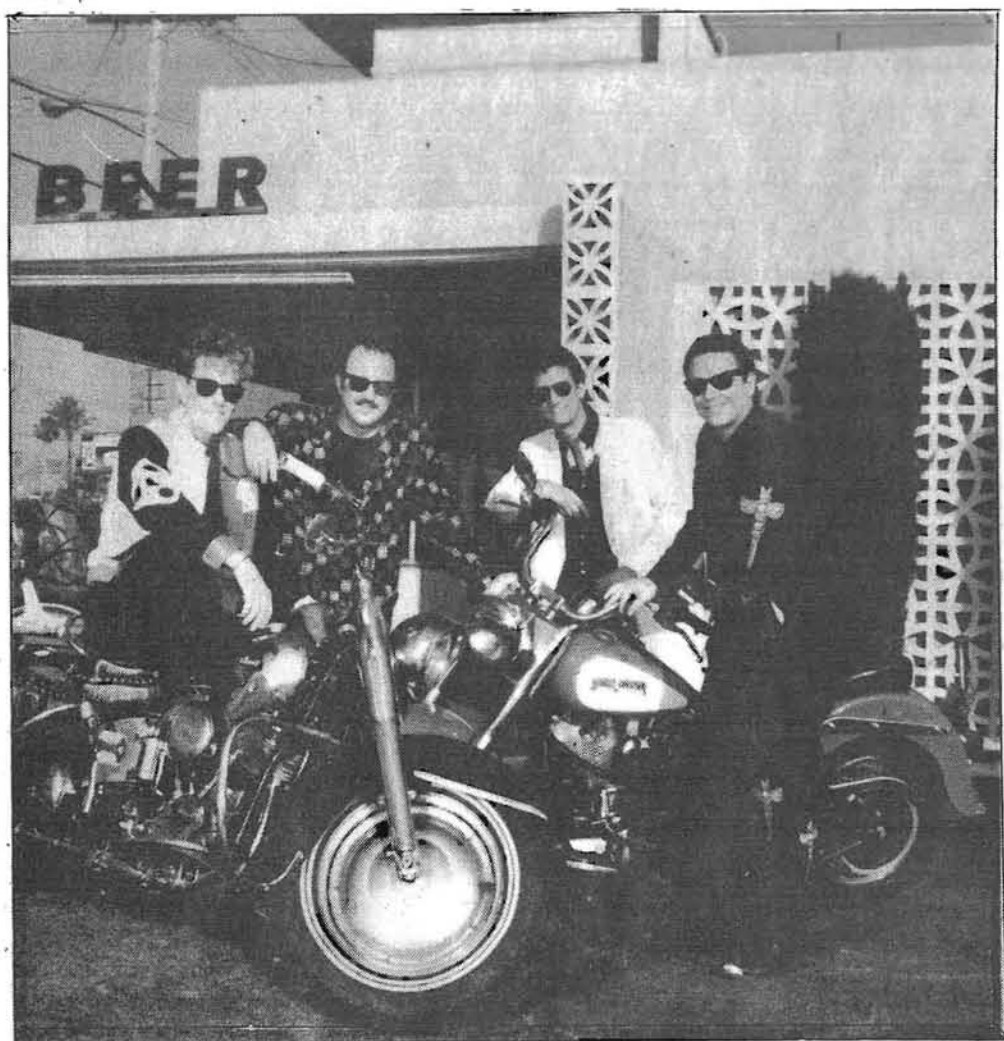
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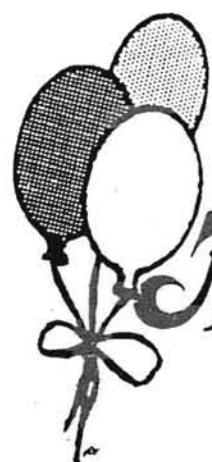


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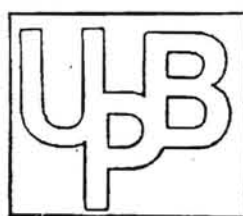


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